# JOURNAL OF

### CALENDAR REFORM



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Published by
THE WORLD CALENDAR ASSOCIATION
485 Madison Avenue, New York City
ELISABETH ACHELIS, President



VOL. IV

OCTOBER, 1934

No. 3

### PROGRESS IN AMERICA

By Elisabeth Achelis

The World Calendar Association was organized in 1930, for the purpose of promoting an active American interest in the 12-month equal-quarter plan of calendar revision. The Association now has 8,500 members, and its work on behalf of calendar reform has resulted in the creation of a large and influential body of informed public opinion. The President, in this report, surveys the progress made, and the present status of the movement in America.

A MERICAN interest in calendar reform has been increasing steadily since the subject first came to public attention, but particularly during the past year. Gradually an informed public opinion has grown up, which is convinced that there are real and preventable inconveniences caused by the changeability and irregularity of the present calendar.

In government circles in the United States, the movement for calendar reform has been looked upon with a sympathetic eye, but until recently it was not felt that the time was ripe for any official action or statement of policy. During the past year, however, there has come such a statement of policy from the report of a presidential committee, which says: "The influence of the federal government and of other public bodies should be thrown wherever possible behind investigations, and behind educational movements, which may ultimately lead to calendar simplification. Public emphasis upon its desirability is of immediate importance."

In accordance with this policy, several governmental departments in

Washington have inaugurated studies of calendar reform problems as related to the particular interests served by each department, and the State Department has undertaken to clear the way for unimpeded American participation in international action on the subject, whenever other leading nations are ready. Because diplomacy moves cautiously, and even somewhat cumbersomely, in such matters, it is worth while recording the steps which have been taken by the American government towards international action: First, the government has officially indicated to the other nations its willingness to participate in international conferences on calendar reform; Second, it has joined 25 other nations in approving an international pact urging the stabilization of Easter by ecclesiastical authorities; Third, the American diplomatic delegate has approved at Geneva an international pronouncement as to "the desirability in principle of securing a simpler measure of time, more accurately appropriate to the needs of modern economic and social life," and also advocating further international conferences based on the agreed premise that "simplification of the calendar is a definite question capable of discussion between nations in the course of official deliberations."

Meanwhile, studies of the actual questions involved, and of the possible effects of calendar revision on various sections of American life, are being carried on in the U. S. Department of Commerce, the U. S. Bureau of Standards, the U. S. Naval Observatory, and other departments and bureaus. No other nation has yet undertaken intensive studies on any such scale, but it is indicated that the American example of investigation and fact-finding may be shortly followed by several governments.

American informed opinion is agreed that the changing features of the present calendar which require attention from the viewpoint of any proposed reform are as follows: (1) The calendar is never the same from year to year; (2) Succeeding years never begin on the same day of the week; (3) Each year it is necessary to use a new calendar; (4) Holidays constantly shift from year to year; (5) Dates of the month fall on different weekdays in successive years; (6) Months in successive years have not the same number of the various weekdays nor the same arrangement of weeks.

Any reform which seeks to meet these problems of changeability must aim, with the minimum of disturbance of the existing system, to stabilize and give permanency to the calendar, so as to obtain dependability and comparability from year to year.

In addition to these problems of changeability, there are also certain calendar irregularities which should be remedied in any revision. These irregularities may be stated as follows: (1) The uneven length of the months—28, 29, 30 and 31 days; (2) There is one month of 28 or 29 days; four months of 30 days; seven months of 31 days; (3) This uneven

distribution of days to the months results in varying quarters—90, 91 and 92 days, causing discrepancies of more than 2 per cent in quarterly comparisons and calculations; (4) The half-year divisions are also unequal—the first half has 181 or 182 days, the second half 184 days.

In respect of these irregularities, the purpose of calendar reform, as viewed in America, is: to establish an ordered, balanced and equalized arrangement of the time divisions within the yearly calendar.

Government officials have noted that specific examples of calendar errors in existing government statistics may be found in practically every federal department. According to the Bureau of Efficiency in Washington, such calendar errors are present in acute form, for example; in the important tabulations of employment in industrial turnover collected by the Department of Labor; in the statistics of domestic and foreign trade kept by the Department of Commerce; in the records of custom receipts and internal revenue collections, of disbursements by government disbursing officers, recorded by the Treasury Department; in the figures of estimated and actual expenditure and revenue, gathered by the Bureau of the Budget; in the statistics of passports and citizenship kept by the State Department.

Still other official examples of calendar irregularities are pointed out in a study made by Governor A. Harry Moore of New Jersey, who states:

Some of the inconveniences of the present calendar are obvious to anyone who has had experience in the courts, in legislation or in government. Because month dates and weekdays fail to synchronize, lawyers and legislators are forced continually to resort to such awkward circumlocutions as "the first Monday after the second Saturday," and "or if said day be a legal holiday then on the next succeeding day not a holiday." The courts are frequently occupied with lawsuits arising out of calendar errors or misunderstandings, usually due to the fact that the anniversary of an event seldom falls on the same day of the week as the event itself. . . Calendar irregularities crop up in finance, banking, accounting, shipping, insurance, investment, labor, production, real estate and many other activities. Even though we have become accustomed to these inconveniences, they nevertheless exist and exact their price in time and energy.

Business advantages of an improved calendar are summed up in a survey published by the Kiwanis Clubs of America, an organization of business leaders, which points out certain definite savings of time, inconvenience and annoyance together with a greater regularity, availability and accuracy in statistics, accounts and records.

Studies of calendar reform in Washington have included, in many cases, a comparison of the merits of the two major proposals for revision of the Gregorian system. Most of the available reports and opinions are strongly in favor of the 12-month equal-quarter plan as against the 13-month scheme.

The case against the 13-month calendar from the statistical standpoint is presented by Henry W. Bearce of the U. S. Bureau of Standards in a publication approved by the Director of the Bureau of Standards of the U. S. Department of Commerce. This document quotes, with full agreement and approval, a summary by Prof. Clark Warburton of the Brookings Institution, pointing out the disastrous effects on historic and business records of a 13-month revision:

To re-compute the numerous indexes of prices, industrial production and other phases of economic activity would be a costly procedure. In the case of many of the statistical series linking present with past, it would be impossible to convert records of the past into form comparable with the present. . . . The next few years are certain to be critical years in the world's history. Economic changes are extremely rapid. Economic systems are challenging each other. There is great uncertainty. . . . To meet this demand for business stabilization and for national economic planning it is essential that economists and business men have all the aid possible from past records. A radical change in the calendar would seriously reduce the usefulness of these records and hamper adjustment to world needs at a critical time in the advance of civilization.

In the U. S. Navy Department, the subject of calendar reform was formally referred to the Naval Observatory for a study of its merits. The resulting report, combining the viewpoints of naval officers and astronomers, is a unanimous approval of calendar reform and a recommendation for the adoption of the 12-month equal-quarter plan. From the viewpoint of mariners, the preservation of the 12-month division of the year is of highest importance, and the U. S. Navy therefore takes its stand as a staunch opponent of any 13-month proposal.

In the U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Mr. Walter Mitchell, Jr., has undertaken a study of certain calendar reform problems, from the particular viewpoint of their bearing on trade accounting. Mr. Mitchell in a report recently published shows that definite confusions, inefficiencies and increased expenditures arise in any system of 13-period accounting.

From the educational standpoint, Dr. W. T. Bawden, former Assistant Commissioner of the U. S. Office of Education, has prepared a report showing the importance of calendar reform to schools and colleges. "Simplification of the calendar is greatly needed in the educational field," he declares. "It is hoped that the movement will eventuate in some form of perpetual calendar; that is, one that does not vary from year to year. The 13-month calendar has much to commend it, but it would seem that the objections against the division of the year into 13 units are sufficiently weighty to prevent its adoption. The unique advantage of the year of 12 months is that the divisibility of this number facilitates the keeping of records and the making of comparisons by periods of varying length. It will be greatly to the advantage of educators if some practicable plan for simplifying the calendar can be carried into effect."

In a recent compilation of opinions from governmental officials, made by the United Press, the replies showed 80 per cent favoring the 12month proposal. Among employees of the Department of Agriculture, the proportion was even larger, indicating that agricultural interests will inevitably prefer the more moderate reform.

D. E. Burr, of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, has stated that "the 12-month equal quarter calendar would result in material economy and greater accuracy in statistical information." Leroy E. Peabody, Senior Highway Economist for the U. S. Bureau of Roads, has suggested that because "the clearcut advantages of the 12-month revision are many and lengthy, some government official should be authorized by Congress to present to other nations the views of the American people and to conduct negotiations to bring about the change." James Spear Taylor of the U. S. Department of Commerce, urging action for calendar reform by the executive branch of the government, has stated: "The 12-month plan would have substantial public benefits and great savings."

In addition to the work which government agencies are doing to promote calendar reform, there is a growing activity among civil and business groups of various kinds. Business studies have been made, or are being made, by such varied organizations as the New York State Chamber of Commerce, the American Statistical Association, the National Electric Light Association, the National Fraternal Congress, the American Association of Engineers, and others.

The churches, too, are keenly interested, and their interest is by no means confined to the reform of the church calendar. Church leaders of all Protestant denominations, under the leadership of the Federal Council of Churches and the Universal Christian Council, have ruled by an almost unanimous vote that "general calendar reform is of such social importance that the churches should definitely participate." A poll of leading American clergymen, undertaken for the information of the Universal Christian Council, showed them favoring calendar reform by a vote of 9 to 1, and preferring the 12-month equal-quarter plan, as compared with the 13-month plan, by about 7 to 1.

Meanwhile, in the Roman Catholic church, leadership for calendar reform has been undertaken by Dr. Edward S. Schwegler, a prolific writer for the church press, who has gathered a stalwart body of clergy and laity as supporters of the 12-month plan. Catholic interest in the American movement for calendar reform is indicated by the fact that the membership of The World Calendar Association includes 18 Roman Catholic archbishops and bishops and about 200 priests.

In view of the steady progress of the movement for calendar reform in the United States during the past year, the studies and investigations into the subject have largely centred on a comparison of the two major proposals for a perpetual calendar, the 12-month and 13-month plans.

In some cases, the issue has been slightly confused by the unwar-

ranted emphasis laid by advocates of the 13-month plan on the fact that a certain number of American businesses have adopted a 4-week period for their internal accounting. Such an accounting system is, of course, in no way identical with, or equivalent to, a 13-month calendar, and accountancy experts point out that many various divisions of the year are employed by different types of business and scientific activity for convenience in calculations and records. Astronomers, for example, ignore the calendar in many of their records, using instead the precise numbered day from an arbitrarily fixed date 6647 years ago, so that January 1, 1934, is designated by them as "2427439, Julian Day." Churchmen use an ecclesiastical calendar which differs in many ways from the civil calendar, but which is satisfactory for their "internal accounting." Governments and business firms use a "fiscal year" which frequently begins at a different period than the civil calendar. Accountants group the year, for bookkeeping purposes, in many various ways according to the nature of the business concerned. But all this would seem to have no real connection with the proposed revision of the civil calendar, and the effort of 13-month calendar advocates to apply a 13-period accounting system to all of man's activities, whether social, professional, scientific, economic, religious, or educational, would seem to be not only an absurdity, but an injustice as well.

The choice lies between a moderate reform, sane and constructive, and an extreme reform with an inevitable heritage of upheaval and difficulty. Past history has shown the impossibility of imposing an extreme reform of the calendar. The French Revolution sought to install a completely new calendar with a 10-day week and various other novel innovations; the result was a chaos and confusion that compelled restoration of the Gregorian system within a few years. More recently, in Russia, an attempt was made to install a new calendar, with a rotating 5-day week and other radical departures from the Gregorian system. It was an interesting experiment, but proved so unworkable that it has been gradually modified.

Informed public opinion in America, as in Europe, votes overwhelmingly for moderation and reasonableness in calendar reform. Repeated questionnaires of various cross-sections of American opinion indicate this very clearly. For instance, a questionnaire addressed by the United Press to members of the American Statistical Association, including representatives of the most important business and industrial organizations in the country, showed a vote of 294 for the 12-month plan, as compared with 117 for the 13-month proposal. A questionnaire addressed to leading American clergymen by the same press association showed a vote of 907 for the 12-month plan, as compared with 131 for the 13-month proposal. A questionnaire addressed to bankers by the University Association for

the Study of Calendar Reform showed a preference for the 12-month plan of 322 to 112. Educators (mostly university professors) were registered by the University Association as 244 to 124 for the 12-month plan, while a smaller poll by the United Press resulted in a verdict of 65 to 26 in favor of a 12-month revision. Transportation officials, polled by the University Association, were 123 to 33 for the 12-month plan; astronomers gave the same verdict by 83 to 33.

Some of these questionnaires involve comparatively small numbers of replies, but the uniformity of the results indicates that they represent a fair average cross-section of informed American opinion. The percentages favoring the 12-month plan, as against the 13-month proposal, in these various polls, are as follows: statisticians 71.5 per cent; clergy 87.3 per cent; bankers 74.2 per cent; educators 66.3 and 71.4 per cent; transportation officials 78.8 per cent; astronomers 71.5 per cent. (Average, 81.7.)

It may be interesting to compare these percentages with those obtained in England through somewhat similar questionnaires issued by the British Parliamentary Committee on Calendar Reform. Preference for the 12-month revision of the calendar, as shown by mayors of British towns and cities, was 74.6 per cent; by labor officials 85.3 per cent; by Members of Parliament 65.9 per cent; by a general list of representative Englishmen, members of the League of Nations Union of Great Britain, 90.8 per cent.

The arguments which are cited as chiefly influencing the American preference for the 12-month plan and opposition to the 13-month are:

1. The perpetual 12-month plan accomplishes all the necessary improvements without violence or upheaval. The changes suggested are few and easy of adoption. They can be put into effect almost without being perceived, without inconvenience to anyone, and without seriously disturbing traditional dates, anniversaries and chronological traditions.

2. The 12-month year is divisible by months into halves, quarters, thirds, sixths and twelfths. On the other hand, 13 is a prime number, completely indivisible, and a 13-month revision would destroy the convenient quarterly and half-yearly division, which have always been the basic and natural units for a vast volume of records, statistics and accounting.

3. The 13-month plan involves a 1/12 increase in costs of bookkeeping, billing, collections and other monthly operations. From a practical viewpoint it would mean doing 13 times annually what hitherto has been done 12 times a year. All the monthly activities of the home, business or profession, such as attending meetings, paying bills, servicing machinery and making tabulations, would have to be repeated once more every year.

4. Twelve is an exceptionally convenient number for calculations, and calendar calculations are more often used by the average individual than any other measurements. Under a 13-month calendar all monthly figuring of budgets, time, production, interest and payments of various kinds, would have to be figured in terms of a thirteenth of a year. The number 13, which is difficult to figure with, would occur billions of times a year in everyday reckoning. The extraordinary convenience of the number 12 would give way to the unparalleled inconvenience of the number 13.

5. The transitional period involved in the adoption of a 13-month year would be an era of confusion, and the disarrangement of statistics and historical records would be

enormous. Comparisons of present and past would become a matter of guess-work owing to the displacement of the compared periods caused by introduction of a 13th month and by dislocation of seasonal divisions in the general upheaval. The 13-month calendar would vitiate many of the existing statistical records for purposes of comparison, greatly reducing the extent to which the world can guide itself by past experience.

6. Costs of the transitional period would be enormously larger for the 13-month revision than for the 12-month plan. It would also involve greater confusion, legal con-

troversy and other disturbance to trade and industry.

7. A 13-month calendar could not possibly be inaugurated universally. The conception of a year as having 12 months is so deeply ingrained in the minds of the masses that a 13-month year would be understood by only a small proportion of the world's

population.

- 8. International acceptance of a 13-month calendar is impossible. Italy, Sweden, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland have definitely stated that they will not consider such a plan, although none of them see any difficulties to a 12-month revision. Japan opposes a 13-month year as contrary to the religion, custom and basic cultural background of the Orient. And there is not the slightest prospect of Great Britain, France, Germany and Spain accepting any change so revolutionary in character and so opposed to their traditional instincts.
- 9. The 12-month revision attains a highly desirable symmetry which is not present in the 13-month plan. Every quarter is identical. In every quarter the various calendar units synchronize. No matter what periods of time are used for accounting, recording or calculating—whether it be the day, week, month, season or quarter—they all come together four times a year. This synchronization facilitates the assembling, studying and comparing of reports, records and data of all kinds, whether in business, education, the church or social and family life.

10. The 13-month plan would provoke popular prejudice by its use of the number

13 and by the fact that the 13th day of every month would fall on Friday.

11. The farmer, who is still a dominant group in many nations and a very powerful group in all, will not tolerate a 13-month calendar. With its discarding of the quarterly seasons and its complete upheaval of monthly dates, it would create chaos in the reckonings of agriculture. All the traditions, statistics, records and lore of the farmer are bound up with the calendar, and his livelihood is dependent on his knowledge of dates and seasons. He will not accept any new calendar which departs too radically from the system of time reckoning now in use.

12. Inadequate as the existing calendar is, it is preferable to a 13-month system. The latter would not simplify; it would render the calendar more complex. It would be a backward type of reform, and the economic cost of the new system would be greater than the gain to be realized. Any calendar reform which adds or suppresses months, or which proposes to change the method of seasonally dividing the year, offers more inconveniences than advantages, and it also has the insuperable obstacle of imposing on the human race a complete breakdown of universal habits which are most difficult

to change.

In the United States, and indeed throughout the world, there is a growing and insistent conviction that the time has come for another attempt to reform the calendar. Events of the past few years have effectively weakened the tendency of the past to dominate the present, and there is a universal desire for improvements in the economic and cultural structure wherever these are needed. The idea of change meets less resistance from those who normally oppose any departure from long established practice.

The present calendar has been brought under the searchlight of reasonable examination and has been found wanting. A growing knowledge of the proposals made by advocates of the 12-month equal-quarter plan has

convinced an increasing group of leaders that in international practice it is the ideal form of revision. People who have been filled with dismay at the suggestion of a 13-month calendar have taken new heart again when they have studied this more moderate and rational proposal, and it has become evident that it was not opposition to reform of any kind which alarmed and distressed them, but fear of changes as extreme and devastating as those proposed by advocates of a 13-month calendar.

American supporters of calendar reform prefer The World Calendar because it is simple, practical and moderate. In its symmetrical arrangement, all the subdivisions of the year unite in a convenient and harmonious equality and unity. No one division or unit of the year dominates over the others in this plan. To it one might well apply the familiar motto of the American republic, *E pluribus unum*—"out of many, one." As the states of the republic are united to form a harmonious nation, so each unit of the calendar, while performing its own part, combines with the others to form a united and balanced whole.

The international aspects of calendar reform become highly important as the subject approaches the stage of actual legislation. Only by mutual agreement among many nations can a change be put into effect. No single nation can act alone in this matter. It is expected that the League of Nations will take definite action in 1936 to set in motion the machinery of international legislation.

#### TURKEY FAVORS NEW CALENDAR

By Dr. IHSAN ALI

Professor of Transportation at Istanbul University; Secretary of Turkish Committee on Calendar Reform

PROPOSALS for revision of the Gregorian calendar were entirely new to Turkey when I was appointed delegate of the Turkish government to the 1931 conference of the League of Nations, and was thus led into a detailed study of the question. The whole subject is still hardly known to the general public in Turkey, but it has aroused a great deal of interest among those who are internationally-minded or have relations with other countries. There is a realization on their part of the need for a new calendar, although very little practical action has been taken, until recently, to participate formally in the movement.

There can be no doubt that the present calendar fails to conform perfectly to the needs of modern life, or that it often causes serious inconveniences in the social

economy of modern nations and peoples.

The great commercial, industrial and transportation interests have realized these inconveniences, and have long been active in searching for the best and most practical remedial measures. Thus in fact was born the present movement for calendar reform, which has spread throughout the world until almost every important nation now has organizations devoted to the promotion of this highly desirable change.

now has organizations devoted to the promotion of this highly desirable change.

Following the example of other nations, the Turkish committee has recently inaugurated a series of publications and discussions of the subject in the Turkish newspapers and magazines. When the time comes for action, there can be no doubt the Turkish government will be ready to vote for, and work for, the proposed change.

## JAPAN'S ATTITUDE

### By Hirosi Saito

Japanese Ambassador to the United States

In the June issue of the JOURNAL OF CALENDAR REFORM, a scholarly article by Prof. Ernest W. Clement explained Japan's attitude on calendar reform, which has been officially stated as favoring a 12-month revision, but unalterably opposed to any 13-month proposal. A brief introduction to Prof. Clement's article, written by the Japanese Ambassador, was received too late for publication. It is printed here as an important re-statement of Japan's position.

NE of the characteristics of advancing civilization has been to increase man's power of moving rapidly from one place to another, thus minimizing his sense of space. The earth has shrunk so astonishingly that today we speak of the journey around it in terms of hours and minutes rather than in years and months. Whether such growth of civilization has made the distant countries better worth seeing or the people worth knowing is too difficult a question for the moment. We are only thankful that in spite of the new spirit sweeping and gyrating around us, the world has not entirely lost its mystery and promise of surprise.

Japan is an old nation with centuries of history and tradition. In her recent contact with the West, the pendulum of our thoughts and doings swung over a wide arc of vibration, and observers from without called her "a nation born in a day." Japan, however, claims no such impossibility, but explains the phenomenon merely as realization of the inherent mental activity of the race, hitherto suppressed. It was a growth and not a birth. Therefore we can state that the raison d'etre of modern Japan is well founded on the precious heritage of our ancestors, and we are loathe to deviate unnecessarily from their path.

The reason for Japan's unwillingness to accept the proposals on calendar reform, so drastic in their application as would cause her serious inconvenience, and her willingness to consider the alternative 12-month proposal, is so clearly and ably expressed by Dr. Clement that I need add nothing further. We are fortunate in having a Western scholar whose sympathy and understanding transcend the racial barriers.

### CANADA'S NEW VIEWPOINT

By Dr. A. VIBERT DOUGLAS

Lecturer in Astrophysics, McGill University

In publishing this article by Prof. Douglas, the McGill University News brings it completely up to date by adding the following editorial note: "While this article has been awaiting publication, announcement has been made that a Rational Calendar Association of Canada has been formed, with headquarters in Toronto. This Association is affiliated with similar organizations in Great Britain, France, the United States, Germany, Belgium and Switzerland, established for the purpose of arousing support for the perpetual 12-month equal-quarter calendar. We wish the Canadian Association every success in the accomplishment of its four stated purposes, which are: (1) To secure withdrawal of Canada's official endorsement at Geneva in 1931 of a 13-month calendar. (2) To advocate world-wide adoption of a national perpetual 12-month equal-quarter calendar. (3) To inform public opinion on the defects and inefficiencies of the calendar now in use. (4) To promote the adoption of a stabilized Easter along the lines of the British Parliamentary Easter Act of 1928."

PUBLIC opinion regarding calendar reform has been canvassed in a fairly thorough way in Great Britain and in the United States, but in Canada next to nothing has been done to inform people of the need for reform and of the proposed reforms, or to obtain evidence of public opinion.

This ignorance or apathy on the part of our people, and an uninformed autocratic impetuosity on the part of the government, are responsible for the laughable or lamentable or humiliating position taken by Canada (according to one's point of view) at the 1931 Conference of 41 nations at Geneva.

On this occasion, calendar reform was on the agenda, and under the chairmanship of the delegate from Great Britain, Sir John Baldwin, the representatives of 41 nations stated their views on the subject. Stabilization of Easter was definitely agreed upon and incorporated in the draft report. That calendar reform will come, was also generally felt, but that public opinion lags too far behind for an immediate reform was expressed by Great Britain, France and other leading countries. Rejection of the 13-month plan and interest in the 12-month plan were expressed by Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Japan, Belgium, Greece, Irish Free State, Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland. Of these, two gave definite commitments on behalf of their governments for the 12-month equal-quarter calendar,—Switzerland and Greece.

And where was Canada? Perhaps my readers had better lay hands on a brandy flask or a bottle of smelling salts before proceeding: Canada and Jugo-Slavia made themselves conspicuous by casting definite votes for the 13-month year. The Canadian delegate had been given instructions from the Canadian government to support the 13-month calendar.

Surely it is high time that Canadians began to look into this matter, and to insist that no Canadian government commits this country to so important a matter without full knowledge of what it is doing and of what the thoughtful, sane and mature leaders of other governments are advocating.

If Canadians study this question and come to the conclusion that the 12-month World Calendar is the best solution of our present calendar deficiencies, then they should take steps to make a repetition of the 1931 pantomime impossible.

A suitable date for the change to be made would be 1939, since January 1, 1939, falls on a Sunday, and so the old calendar would merge into the new with no dislocation of days. It is therefore obvious that the sooner a general interest in the matter is aroused, the better it will be, for public opinion is not often rapidly formed nor are apathy and prejudice easily overcome.

Astronomers are invariably interested in questions relating to the passage of time, the practical problem of the recording of the sequence of days and nights, solstices, and equinoxes. The formation of a calendar is essentially an astronomer's task, but since the calendar affects the life and interests of every man, woman, and child, the public should be interested in this question and should not relegate it to a few fanatical hobbyists, or leave it to uninformed political expediency.

Julius Caesar called upon Sosigenes of Alexandria to draw up the Julian Calendar and based his Edict of 45 B.C. upon this astronomer's proposals. Pope Gregory XIII invoked the aid of a Roman astronomer, Clavius, and followed his recommendations in the revised calendar of 1582. Omar Khayyám was both an astronomer and a poet, and it was in the former capacity, not the latter, that he served his day and generation, and many generations following, as a calendar maker, one of a committee of eight appointed by the Sultan of Khorassán.

The Catholic countries of Europe have been following the Gregorian calendar since its introduction in 1582. England refrained from calendar reform until 1751. Something drastic had therefore to be done, and a very great calendar upheaval took place, twofold in character. First, in the matter of New Year's Day, which had been in March and was, by act of Parliament, 1751, identified with January 1st of that year, which thus became January 1st, 1752. Secondly, to bring the vernal equinox into line with the Gregorian Calendar, eleven days of September were dropped entirely, the 2nd day of September being followed by the 14th. It was, of course, necessary to make legal provision for resulting problems regarding

taxes, rentals, salaries, and so forth; but nothing could be done to stem the tide of ignorant resentment and superstitious anger on the part of some sections of the populace; and serious riots testified to the reality of the impression that the government were by act depriving men of eleven days of their lives. The dogma that the calendar is a divinely established ordinance that must not be tampered with is one that dies hard; indeed it is far from dead now in our own day when the question of calendar reform is once more a live issue.

There are two distinct matters before the nations at the present time, (1) the question of the advisability of fixing the date of Easter, (2) the question of introducing some form of fixed or universal calendar.

The former question has been fully debated in the British Parliament, by various religious bodies, and by the League of Nations committee on calendar reform. Under the present rule for the date of Easter, its position in the calendar can vary as much as 35 days, a most unsatisfactory arrangement for church and state and all mundane affairs. A British Easter Act was passed in 1928 approving the principle of a fixed Easter "on the Sunday following the second Saturday in April." The League of Nations embodied this in their "Easter Act," 1931.

So much for the date of Easter; now let us consider the larger problem of the introduction of a perpetual calendar. Among the proposals that have been made, there are two that deserve consideration—the World Calendar (of 12 months, four exactly equal quarters), and the International Fixed Calendar (of 13 identical months).

The initiative of Moses B. Cotsworth, backed by the support of the late George B. Eastman, has succeeded in giving a certain publicity to the latter proposal. The chief disadvantages, and to many people sufficient causes for total rejection of this scheme, are the introduction of a new month and the fact that a 13-month year is not naturally divisible into half and quarter years.

The World Calendar has the advantage from the point of view of business, industry, accounts, and statistics that each month always contains the same number of work-days, so that both monthly reports and quarterly reports are unequivocably comparable, which is of course far from true in the present calendar, where a 31-day month can have 27 working days, as compared with a February of 24 working days, a difference of over 11 per cent. As a matter of interest it may be noted that in this World Calendar, Easter Sunday would fall always on April 8, Victoria day on a Friday, Dominion Day on Sunday, Armistice Day on Saturday, and Christmas Day on Monday.

# EPISCOPAL CHURCH ACTS

By CHARLES C. SUTTER

Director of The World Calendar Association

ADOPTION by the Episcopal General Convention of a comprehensive resolution in favor of calendar reform and the stabilization of Easter marks the formal entry of the American churches into the worldwide campaign for a long-delayed revision of the Gregorian calendar.

Under the forceful leadership of Bishop William T. Manning of New York, the subject of calendar reform was formally presented to the Episcopal Convention in Atlantic City, first in the House of Bishops and later in the House of Deputies. It was referred to a special committee consisting of Bishop Manning as chairman, with Bishop Irving P. Johnson of Colorado and Bishop John D. Wing of South Florida. From this committee came the draft resolution which was adopted by both houses. The text is as follows:

"WHEREAS recent studies and inquiries, instituted at the request of the League of Nations, have revealed an overwhelming proportion of Christian opinion in support of the stabilization of Easter and the reform of the calendar; and

"WHEREAS the proposed fixing of Easter on April 8th, as provided by The World Calendar, comes nearest the actual date of the First Easter as determined

by competent scholarship; and

"WHEREAS the adoption of this reform has been favored by the representatives of practically the whole of Christendom in respect to its adherence to the time-honored division of the year into 12 months and the equalizing of the quarters of the year; and

"WHEREAS, in particular, the unity of the Christian church directly involves a uniform calendar as desired by our brethren of the Eastern Orthodox church, as

well as by other large bodies of Christians:

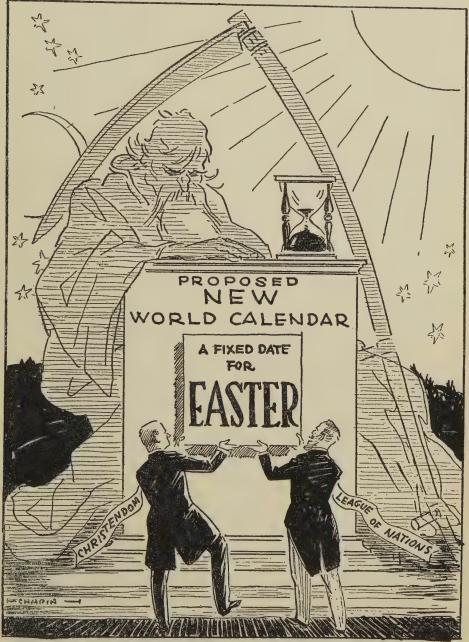
"THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, with the understanding that all the great historic Christian communities are favorable to the proposed changes, the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church approves the definite stabilization of Easter on April 8th in a reformed calendar of 12 months with equal quarters;

"AND THAT copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, to His Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, to His Holiness Pope Pius XI, to the President of the Universal Christian Council for Life and Work, to the Secretary of State of the United States, and to the Director General of the League of Nations."

The action of the Atlantic City convention was taken only after careful study and preparation. Delegates, both in the House of Bishops and in the House of Deputies, came to the convention fully informed on the subject, and a detailed questionnaire which was submitted to them some time in advance had revealed that they were convinced of the merits of the proposals for a new calendar.

When the subject was presented in the House of Bishops by Bishop Manning, there were suggestions from the floor that, as the subject was

# A Change We Favor



### CHURCHES JOIN CALENDAR CRUSADE

Under the caption "A Change We Favor," this drawing appeared in the General Convention Daily published at the Triennial convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of America in Atlantic City during the menth of October. That the sentiment expressed by the artist had the full endorsement of the bishops and deputies to the convention was indicated a few days later, when they passed a strong resolution, text of which appears on the opposite page.

one of great importance, involving the daily life of millions of people, it should have the consideration of a special committee, rather than being referred to one of the standing committees, occupied with many other matters. A special committee was therefore appointed, which met during the next two or three days and then brought back to the convention its unanimous agreement to the resolution which was later adopted. Bishop Manning made an eloquent presentation of the committee's report, stressing mainly the importance of calendar reform from the viewpoint of church unity, and emphasizing the leadership taken in this matter by the convention of the Universal Christian Council at Fano, Denmark, in August. Bishop Manning's motion for the adoption of the resolution was promptly seconded by several Bishops, from all parts of the floor. The ensuing discussion was all in endorsement of the resolution, which was passed by a unanimous vote.

In the House of Deputies, the principal address for the resolution came from Dr. Frederic S. Fleming, rector of Old Trinity, New York. "This subject comes to us," he said, "with a unanimously favorable vote from our Bishops, with the endorsement of the Universal Christian Council, and with the approval of practically the whole of Christendom. I have before me a most exhaustive documentation on the matter, and I could go on for hours, giving you the reasons for adopting this resolution. But it doesn't seem necessary to take your time. I think we are all pretty well informed, and realize that here is a forward step in which the churches can and should participate wholeheartedly." The vote, taken a few minutes later, was overwhelmingly affirmative.

The importance of the convention's action was pointed out, after the passage of the resolution, by Bishop Manning. "In the world movement for calendar reform," he said, "the solid approval of the churches and their active participation and leadership should encourage governments to move as rapidly as possible toward the actual legislative enactment of the new calendar. While it is undoubtedly true that the legislative stage of this reform involves certain difficulties, yet the sooner they are faced the better, and the unified support of the churches will make the task of international legislation easier."

The action of the Universal Christian Council, at its meeting in Fano, Denmark, on August 29, came after a two years' study of calendar reform by the research department of that organization. The report of this study was presented to the Fano convention in a 27-page report, which established the following factual conclusions: (1) That there is a widespread agreement among the churches as to their readiness to deal with the questions of a stabilized Easter and general calendar reform; (2) that there is an almost unanimous attitude on the part of the churches as regards the important points to be decided; (3) that an overwhelming majority of

the churches raise no fundamental objections to the stabilization of Easter, and a very considerable number of them express an urgent wish for the reform of the calendar very soon; (4) that a large number of churches express a desire or an urgent demand for the fixing of Easter, not only on a certain Sunday, but also on a definite date in a perpetual calendar.

Following the presentation of this report at Fano, resolutions endorsing calendar reform and Easter stabilization were unanimously adopted. The resolutions were sponsored jointly by Dr. S. Parkes Cadman for the American churches and by the Bishop of Chichester for the Church of England. The text urges the churches to approach their governments and the League of Nations for the immediate drafting of such legislation as is necessary to place a reformed calendar in operation, with the assurance that no doctrinal or dogmatic objections will be raised by church authorities. The continental churches, including the German Church, joined in approving the resolution, of which the text is as follows:

"In accordance with the results of the study and enquiries on the attitude of the churches belonging to the Universal Christian Council in regard to the stabilization

of Easter and calendar reform, the following resolution is adopted:

"I. The Council agrees that in any calendar reform and new regulation of the date of Easter, the disturbances and distress in social and economic life caused by the changing date of Easter should be restricted to a minimum and that therefore in any such new regulation the festival of Easter should be definitely stabilized on a fixed date on the condition that it should always fall on a Sunday.

"II. The Council agrees that in any such new regulation the great church festivals and holy days should be stabilized as far as possible in such a way as to

facilitate the ecumenical unity of the church by common worship and service.

"III. The Council agrees that the churches should be asked to inform their respective governments of the proposals adopted in this resolution and of their respective attitudes and should request that these church interests should be considered in connection with the steps to be taken by the governments for the preparation of the reform of the calendar.

"IV. The Council agrees that these decisions should be submitted to the League of Nations, with the request that the wishes and interests of the churches should be taken into consideration in the preparatory steps to be taken for the stabilization of

Easter and the reform of the calendar."

#### **ACTION BY OTHER CHURCH BODIES**

BESIDES the action taken by the Episcopal Church at its triennial convention, two other great American churches have endorsed calendar reform during the past month. In both the Lutheran and Presbyterian denominations, action has been taken by the governing bodies.

At the Ninth Biennial Convention of the United Lutheran Church, held in Atlanta October 17-24, a resolution was passed along the lines suggested by the Universal Christian Council, approving calendar reform as recommended by the World Calendar

Association and urging the stabilization of Easter.

At a meeting of the General Council of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, held on October 24th, the following action was taken: "There seems to be throughout the Church a high degree of unanimity of opinion with regard to the desirability of Easter stabilization and the 12-month plan of calendar reform. It is recommended that the Council express its approval of wise calendar reform, and the desirability of the stabilizing Easter and other religious festivals."

### TYRANNY OF TIME

### By CHARLES NORDMANN

Free Member of the French Academy

(Abstracted from the French by C. D. Morris)

In a book which has become a standard work in France, M. Nordmann discusses the paradoxes of the calendar and the strange faux pas observed in the endless round of stars and hours. As in his popular science articles for the Paris Matin, he carefully avoids the didactic style, and seeks to relieve the dryness of hard facts by flights of the imagination. He does not hold with those who believe that one must be tiresome to be precise, or dogmatic to be instructive.

EXT to the pleasure of killing time, nothing pleases men so much as to dissect it into well-grouped sections. Hence their interest in the calendar. Much is expected of the League of Nations for the reform of the calendar, and with good reason.

I can hear the amateur diplomatists facetiously explaining that the League has many other fish to fry, and that economic, political, historical and geographical questions are enough to absorb its attention to such an extent that no time will be left for questions of the almanac.

To this I would respectfully reply that if the reform of the calendar is not a vital matter, then that is an excellent reason for putting it at the head of the agenda. History and psychology agree in showing that the great problems, the problems of highest importance, which affect all the interests and raise all the passions, are the most difficult of all to settle. Only the small questions can be tackled with any chance of a successful solution. A country or a man who only tackles the biggest things would lose time and fail to solve any, and this is as sure in science and in metaphysics as it is in politics. But let us return to the calendar, which is closely bound up with these considerations.

The best proof of its appreciable importance is that Caesar himself, and afterwards one of the greatest popes, deigned to devote their intelligence to its improvement. And when the English passed from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar and the date suddenly jumped from one quarter to the next, there was a riot among the people. Evil tongues say that some great ladies of the aristocracy had a hand in this, because the jump in the date affected their coquetry. I could give a thousand other proofs. But I shall confine myself to pointing out the defects of the present-day calendar, hoping that they are of such slight importance that their correction will not hurt or harass anybody, nor put too many interests or customs on the defensive.

All the drawbacks of the almanac, all the complications and irregularities of the various calendars used, proposed, or discarded are due to

the fact that there is no common measure of the day, the lunar month, and the year. To speak only of the principal calendars still in use among so-called civilized peoples, it is sometimes the month and sometimes the year which preponderates, and different systems result. In the Jewish and Mohammedan calendars, the month is the important thing, and this is very natural, for in the East, where these systems originated, the seasons are but slightly marked, while the generally clear nights and the nomadic life endow the phases of the moon with importance. The Mohammedan calendar does not concern itself with the seasons. The year consists of 354 or 355 days, and its beginning lags some ten days behind every year, so its New Year celebration passes through all our seasons. When a Musselman confesses to 36 years he is really 35.

In the Jewish calendar, on the other hand, a jump is made every now and then, which makes the Jewish year, on the whole, equal to ours.

In our own calendars—and this applies to both the Julian and Gregorian—the year is the essential thing and the month is secondary. And the defects mentioned below are common to both. Thus every reform which would remedy them would benefit all Christendom. The best way of persuading all nations to adopt the same calendar would be to make the new calendar clearly superior to existing ones.

A first inconvenience of the existing calendar is the variation of the date of Easter. Other defects are that the divisions of the year (months, quarters and half-years) are of unequal length, which causes continual inconvenience and uncertainty, loss of time and money, errors and injustices in the calculation of salaries, interest, insurance and pensions, rents and annuities, and current accounts. Furthermore, the date of the month does not fall on the same weekday in successive years. Periodical public and private events, anniversaries, maturities, fairs and markets, and meetings do not fall on the same weekday for a given day, and vice-versa. These drawbacks have led men, and particularly business men, to study the indispensable reform of these badly devised calendars, which cost immense sums and cause a thousand petty annoyances in the world.

Even before the war, international congresses assembled to popularize and study the question of reform. The most important of these took place at Liege on the eve of war. It passed resolutions as follows: recommending the adoption of a new calendar; urging that the new calendar be a perpetual one, with agreement between days of the month and days of the week; recommending that the year of 12 months be preserved.

People have understood at last that religion has nothing to do with these questions of the calendar. Religion and the calendar can be, as mathematicians would say, independent variables.

Most of the systems for reforming the calendar have been put forward in the course of an interesting competition organized by the Astronomical Society of France. The prize was awarded to M. Armelin, who proposed that the year consist of 4 equal quarters of 91 days each (two months of 30 days and one of 31 days). This makes 364 days. To these, either one or two supplementary days are added, according as the year is an ordinary year or a leap year. Thus each quarter has 13 whole weeks, and in all quarters the same dates always correspond in their weekday incidence.

Many authors have put forward analogous projects, which are really variants. The variations are of secondary importance. But they all suppress the present inequality of quarters and half-years; they have a whole number and the same number, of weeks in each quarter; and the same weekday always fall on corresponding days in each quarter, that is, on days 3 months apart. Most of the accustomed characteristics of the present calendar are preserved while many drawbacks are remedied.

There is another group of reformed calendars, in which the year consists of 13 months. This system is still more rigorous than the other one, and it also contravenes old-established habits. Would the public admit a year of 13 months? It is not only a question of the superstition attached to the number 13, but also of the inconvenience and disorganization to commercial habits resulting from the suppression of convenient subdivisions like the quarter and half-year. This was the view of the Liege Congress, which ruled "that the division into 12 months be preserved."

Let us not demand an exaggerated scientific rigor in the reform of the calendar. That reform is demanded by practical considerations. It should be tackled practically. In any case, the fate of this question will enable us to judge the League of Nations.

#### **OBITUARY NOTES**

PROF. GIUSEPPE GIANFRANCHESCHI, one of the Vatican's outstanding scientists and for many years the papal representative on the subject of calendar reform, died on July 9 at Vatican City. He had been an active partisan of calendar revision from the time of his participation in the international conferences called by the International Astronomical Union, prior to the World War. He was a former director of the Gregorian Academy of Science, president of the new Lintee Scientific Academy, director of the Vatican radio, and delegate to many international conventions.

THE death in Athens of Prof. Demetrius Eginitis removes from the international arena one of the foremost advocates of calendar reform. As head of the National Astronomical Observatory in Athens, he brought the subject to the attention of the International Astronomical Union twenty years ago. And from that time, his activity in behalf of the 12-month equal-quarter plan of calendar revision had been unflagging. His leadership, backed by the full authority of the Greek government and the Eastern Orthodox Church, was one of the chief agencies in bringing calendar reform before the International Chamber of Commerce, and later into the League of Nations.

THE RIGHT REVEREND WILLIAM F. FABER, Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Montana, and one of the early members of the World Calendar Association, died on July 20. He had been an active advocate of calendar reform for many years and had planned to aid in bringing the subject before the General Convention of his church.

### LATIN AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

### By ISMAEL GAJARDO REYES

Past Director of the National Astronomical Observatory of Chile; chairman of the Comite Latino-Americano del Calendario Mundial; member Advisory Committee of The World Calendar Association

Increasing interest in calendar reform throughout South America is indicated by the formation of an international committee on calendar reform under the chairmanship of Dr. Gajardo Reyes, which will coordinate the activities of groups and committees in several Latin American countries. The movement has recently received important official support from government officials and party leaders, and the Geneva delegates of these countries are expected to receive instructions to support the 12-month equal quarter plan of revision in all future deliberations at the League of Nations. The general program and principles of the committee's activities are outlined by the chairman in this statement.

HE GREGORIAN calendar, as a whole, has served the world long and well. It requires only the slightest internal adjustments and rearrangements to make it completely satisfactory from the present-day viewpoint of human efficiency and business convenience.

It is generally agreed, among those who have studied the subject, that the time has come to make these adjustments, and it is hoped that the proposed reform of the calendar (on the basis of a 12-months equal-quarter perpetual calendar) will be adopted by the nations of the world in time to be put in force in 1939.

That this reform should go into effect on January 1, 1939, is very clear when one studies the proposed new calendar. The transition must necessarily take place in a year beginning on Sunday, because at that time the transfer can be made normally and without perceptible change either in dates or days. The League of Nations, which has studied this subject thoroughly and which has moral authority to lead in the change, has pointed out the suitable character of this date, and it is now proposed that the League should adopt, at the earliest possible date, the following resolution:

"It is recommended by the Council of the League of Nations that all countries of the civilized world carry out on Jan. 1, 1939, the substitution of a 12-month equal-quarter calendar for the present Gregorian calendar, and that such a calendar become effective on that date in connection with all the activities of the League of Nations."

The inefficiencies of the present calendar as a method of measuring and recording time may be summed up as follows: (1) The inequality in the length of months, quarters and half-years greatly complicates such calculations as interest, wages and distribution of work. (2) The same

day of the month has a different weekday position in successive years; thus the week does not keep any exact relationship with the month. For example, the month of February when it has 29 days may have five Sundays, while other and longer months in the same year will have only four. (3) The first quarter of the year has 90 days, the second quarter 91, the third and fourth quarters 92 each. (4) The first half of the year is three days shorter than the second half. (5) Easter, with its accompanying holy days, wanders over a period of 35 days.

Nobody can deny that these discrepancies contain factors of error which inevitably cause difficulties in such fields as economics, statistics, finance and education.

The idea of a reform which will correct these unnecessary irregularities is therefore a natural one. For many years astronomers, legislators, business men and other thoughtful people have been thinking seriously about these inconveniences, and have participated zealously in movements to devise and promote plans for calendar revision and improvement. The reform movement, if one may call it by this term, has now assumed important proportions and has passed from the pamphleteering stage to the point where it is ready for full-fledged parliamentary and legislative action.

Two plans of calendar reform are seriously proposed for world adoption. I shall describe in some detail the one of these which is, in my opinion, the best and most appropriate way to reach a solution and to confer the maximum benefits with the minimum inconvenience.

But first let us consider the reasons for discarding the other plan,—the proposed calendar of 13 months. This proposal has constituted for many years a kind of hobby for certain enthusiasts, but it comprises, I believe, such far-reaching changes that it cannot possibly be considered in the light of practical politics. The break with the past, under this system, would be too violent; it would confuse and disjoint everything that has existed in the past or exists in the present.

Briefly summarized, the 13-month plan proposes identical months of 28 days, or exactly four weeks. The additional month, called "Sol," would be inserted between June and July. This plan is generally known, from the names of its chief backers, as the Cotsworth-Eastman proposal. It has been advocated energetically by its sponsors for the past ten years, particularly in the councils of the League of Nations, but it has met with so little success that only two nations (Canada and Jugo-Slavia) have given it official support, and one of these nations, Canada, is expected to withdraw its endorsement at the next meeting of the League of Nations' commission which deals with the subject.

Objections to the 13-month proposal start with the fact that the number 13 is a prime number and cannot be divided or factored. It

cannot be divided into convenient halves, thirds, quarters or sixths. No advantages claimed for the 13-month plan can overcome this very great disadvantage. Sacrificing of the year's divisibility will be forcibly resisted by the whole civilized world.

The 13-month plan should be as readily rejected as the proposal sometimes made to divide the year into 73 weeks of 5 days each, which would be inadmissible from almost every practical viewpoint, although it has the historic support of having been used by the Hittites and Assyrians, as recorded in clay tablets discovered in Alisbar by Von der Osten.

The plan most generally favored, then, is one which retains the 12-month division of the calendar. It reduces the length of the year, for purposes of calendrical reckoning, to 364 days, to which is added one extra-calendrical day called "Year Day." Another such day is added in leap years and called "Leap Day."

This adjustment makes the calendar perpetual,—that is, identical from year to year. It makes simple a slight adjustment in the months, so that every quarter-year is also identical. The new calendar, then, will have the following essential points:

- (1) The year will be divided into four equal quarters of three months each. The first month of each quarter will have 31 days; the second and third months of each quarter will have 30 days each. Every quarter, then, will contain 91 days, or exactly 13 weeks, of which 13 days are Sundays and 78 are weekdays. Each month of the year has, under this plan, 26 weekdays.
  - (2) Each quarter begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday.
- (3) The 365th day, completing the year, is a holiday without weekday name or numerical designation, being placed as an extra Saturday between Dec. 30th and Jan. 1st. This day, it has been suggested, might well be called "Dia de la Paz" (Day of Peace), and be dedicated to the promotion of universal peace. In leap years, the additional day would be similarly placed between June 30th and July 1st.

The great advantages of this new calendar are immediately evident. It is symmetrical, balanced and perpetual. It retains the usual and factorable 12 divisions of the present calendar. It involves a minimum of change. It keeps the list of months exactly as they are, and nobody need worry about the appearance of a new and fantastic month called Sol.

It changes only 7 days in the present calendar. February gets two additional days; March loses one; April gains one; May and August each lose one. The last day of December becomes the new intercalary day which makes the calendar perpetual. From February 28th to September 1st, dates in the present calendar will move one or two places from their present positions, the others will not change at all. The readjustments are so slight that they will hardly be noticed by the average individual.

# OPINION OF THE CLERGY

Report of a Questionnaire Issued to American Clergymen

by

#### THE UNITED PRESS

This report, in a more extended form, was presented to the meeting of the Universal Christian Council, in Fano, Denmark, on August 29, as a part of the findings of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, regarding the opinion of the American clergy on the subject of calendar reform. The complete report, in pamphlet form, may be obtained on request from the World Calendar Association.

OOPERATING with the Federal Council of Churches and the Universal Christian Council, the United Press issued to a representative list of leading American clergymen a questionnaire designed to make clear the attitude of the American churches on calendar reform.

The replies received indicate that American clergymen favor general reform of the calendar by a vote of about 9 to 1. They favor Easter stabilization by more than 10 to 1. They prefer the 12-month equal-quarter

	SUMMARY	of Replies			
Denominations	Number of Replies	Favoring Calendar Reform		Fixed Easter	
Episcopal	Received 238	12-mo. 1 187	3-mo. 22	$rac{ m Yes}{210}$	No 19
Presbyterian	315	243	34	269	27
Congregational	173	133	20	156	12
Reformed	104	155 84	14	101	3
Methodist	53	33	13	47	_
	95 46				4
Baptist	40 39	35	6	40	4
Lutheran		34	0	34	4
Universalist	47	37	4	41	2
Disciples	36	28	6	33	2
Evangelical	26	21	0	21	4
Moravian	13	10	1	10	2
Christian	11	9	2	11	0
Friends	4	3	1	4	0
Anglican	2	2	0	2	0
Unitarian	1	1	0	1	0
Miscellaneous	70	47	8	57	9
Totals	1178	907	 131	1037	92

plan of calendar reform, as compared with the 13-month plan, by 7 to 1.

In the 1178 replies received by the United Press, clergymen of all denominations make a great variety of interesting suggestions and comments. The majority of them believe that the churches should take part in the movement for a general reform of the calendar, and many of them urge that the churches should lead this movement.

The exact result of the questionnaire is summarized below (totals tabulated by the International Business Machines Corporation):

Question No. 1. Do you favor a fixed, instead of a variable, date for Easter?

Yes, 1037; No, 92; Non-committal, 49.

Question No. 2. Do you approve the attitude of the Universal Christian Council in declaring that general calendar reform is of such social importance that the churches should definitely participate in the study of it?

Yes, 979; No, 112; Non-committal, 87.

Question No. 3. Do you favor definite legislative action by the respective nations looking toward a revision of the calendar within the next five years?

Yes, 988; No, 97; Non-committal, 93.

Question No. 4. Which of the two major plans for calendar reform (the 12-month equal-quarter plan or the 13-month plan) do you prefer?

12-month, 907; 13-month, 131; Neither, 46; Opposed to thirteen, 11; Prefer 13 but think 12 more likely to be adopted, 16; Non-committal, 80.

Question No. 5. Who should take the initiative in calendar reform? Should the church, business organizations or governments lead?

Governments, 366; Church, 295; Business, 59; All cooperate, 186; Miscellaneous, 272.

Question No. 6. If the church takes the initiative, what body is best qualified to act? National convention or assembly, local churches, special committees?

National conventions, 536; Special committees, 95; Local churches, 30; Federal Council, 79; Miscellaneous, 146; No answer, 292.

A summary of the replies, by denominations, is given below.

T. W. GERBER,

United Press Associations, New York City.

August 10, 1934.

#### EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Among 238 replies from Episcopal clergymen, 187 favor the 12-month revision of the calendar, and only 22 prefer the 13-month plan. On the stabilization of Easter, 210 replies are "yes"; 19 are "no".

Replies were received from 51 Episcopal bishops, who indicate that the subject of calendar reform is one which is receiving considerable study and

attention from church leaders. Their vote for Easter stabilization is 40 to 6. The vote for a general reform of the calendar is 45 to 4. As between the two major plans of revision, the 12-month is favored by 36 bishops, while the 13-month gets 3 votes.

In the East Dr. Wm. T. Manning, Bishop of New York: "A fixed Easter . . . the proposed 12-month calendar is most decidedly better than the 13-month scheme." Dr. Ernest M. Stires, Bishop of Long Island, believes that "the church should take the initiative in calendar reform if possible; the national convention is best qualified to act, but local churches may well memorialize their national organization." Dr. G. Ashton Oldham, Bishop of Albany, favors definite legislative action for revision of the calendar within the next five years, and regards the subject as one which should be taken up by the national convention of the church. Dr. Charles Fiske, Bishop of Central New York, writes: "Anything to simplify the calendar: I prefer the 13-month plan, but am not averse to the other. . . . Since the Christian churches are affected, I believe the various church conventions would expedite the reform if resolutions of approval were passed at convention sessions. I would vote for such approval at Atlantic City."

Supporters of the 12-month revision among the Eastern Bishops include Dr. Frank W. Sterrett, Bishop of Bethlehem, Pa., who believes that the church should take the initiative in promoting this reform, Dr. William Hall Moreland of New York (former Bishop of Sacramento), who says: "The end is so desirable that church, state and business should act together through joint commissions," Dr. Benjamin Brewster, Bishop of Maine, who writes: "I prefer the 12-month equal-quarter plan," and Dr. John

C. Ward, Bishop of Erie.

Action by the Episcopal national convention, on behalf of the 12-month plan, is suggested by Dr. Thomas F. David, Bishop of Western Massachusetts, and also by Dr. J. Blair Larned, Suffragan Bishop of Long Island, who writes: "The church may well take the initiative." Votes against any calendar change, even the stabilization of Easter, are registered by Dr. Wyatt Brown, Bishop of Harrisburg; Dr. Benjamin M. Washburn, Bishop Coadjutor of Newark, and Dr. Francis M. Taitt, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Wilson R. Stearly, Bishop of Newark, writes: "I should say that it would be proper to direct a communication to the General Convention of the Episcopal church at its meeting in Atlantic City. That should be a good place for giving information concerning the movement and securing opinions concerning it. Personally I should be pleased if the House of Bishops particularly found time to bring the matter up for conference and discussion." Dr. A. L. Lloyd, Suffragan Bishop of New York, states that he has long been interested in the subject and adds: "It seems to me that calendar reform is an entirely practical proposition, and that after a very little while everybody would become so accustomed to the new calendar that men would wonder why for so long a time the world was willing to be subjected to the inconvenience caused by the old one."

From the central and western states, twenty-three Bishops cast 18 votes for the 12-month plan, and 3 votes for the 13-month proposal. Dr. John C. White, Bishop of Springfield, casts his vote against Easter stabilization, but at the same time heartily approves a general revision of the calendar, with the church leading the movement. Dr. Warren L. Rogers, Bishop of Ohio, writes: "I approve the action of the Universal Christian Council in promoting calendar reform through the churches. I favor consideration of the question in the general convention of the Episcopal church, and believe that the churches should cooperate with governments and civil organizations in furtherance of the 12-month equal-quarter plan." Dr. J. N. McCormick, Bishop of Western Michigan, wants the churches to cooperate on behalf of the 12-month plan. Dr. Edward Thomas Denby, Suffragan Bishop of Arkansas, suggests that "representatives of all Christian communions meet in a national convention" to deal with this subject. He believes that the churches should lead. Dr. G. G. Bennett, retired Bishop of Duluth, favors church leadership for enactment of the 12-month plan.

Dr. Edward M. Cross, Bishop of Eastern Washington, thinks the churches should participate in the study of calendar reform and should take definite leadership through

their national bodies. Dr. Elmer N. Schmuck, Bishop of Wyoming, suggests a national convention of authorized representatives appointed by all the churches to endorse the 12-month plan and urge its adoption upon the governments of the world. Dr. Benjamin F. P. Ivins, Bishop of Milwaukee, writes: "I am convinced the new calendar will come, and wish its coming could be expedited."

Bishops who added their endorsement to the 12-month plan in this part of the country include Dr. Herman Page, Bishop of Michigan, who declares for Easter stabilization and calendar reform; Dr. G. C. Stewart, Bishop of Chicago; Dr. J. B. Bentley, Suffragan Bishop of Alaska. Dr. I. P. Johnson, Bishop of Colorado, does not desire any

calendar reform or Easter stabilization.

Dr. Stephen E. Keeler, Bishop Coadjutor of Minnesota: "The 12-month calendar, revised to meet the requirements, both in the economic and ecclesiastical fields, will have my earnest support." Dr. F. A. McElwain, Bishop of Minnesota: "The church should lead in this movement, but government interest should be enlisted."

Dr. W. B. Stevens, Bishop of Los Angeles, and Dr. J. M. Francis, Bishop of Indiana, suggest action by the Episcopal National Convention on behalf of the 12-month plan

of calendar reform.

Dr. H. H. H. Fox, Bishop of Montana, approves action by the church convention, but makes no choice between the two proposals for calendar revision. Dr. Louis A. Sanford, Missionary Bishop of San Joaquin, Cal., believes churches should take the leadership in national convention and favors the 12-month equal-quarter plan of revision, as does Dr. Noel Porter, Bishop of Sacramento.

Dr. Edward L. Parsons, Bishop of California, in endorsing general calendar reform and Easter stabilization, believes national conventions are the most appropriate body qualified to act within the church. Dr. A. W. Moulton, Missionary Bishop of Utah, in endorsing the 12-month plan and urging church leadership, writes: "The church has a

special interest in its own calendar."

Dr. Robert Burton Gooden, Suffragan Bishop of Los Angeles, is against calendar reform and Easter stabilization. Dr. Thomas Jenkins, Missionary Bishop of Nevada, endorses the 12-month plan and Easter stabilization and says: "The World Calendar would seem to accomplish in a simple and understandable manner all that anyone might

reasonably desire in the way of reform."

From the Southern states, 11 Bishops are unanimously in favor of a fixed Easter and general reform of the calendar. Ten of them vote for the 12-month plan, with the eleventh omitting an answer to this question. "I think the church should take the initiative in calendar reform, and I advise study of the subject by local churches, with action by the national convention," writes Dr. E. Cecil Seaman, Bishop of North Texas. Action by the Lambeth Conference is suggested by Dr. H. J. Mikell, Bishop of Atlanta. "The church might appropriately take the lead," declares Dr. Edwin A. Penick, Bishop of North Carolina. "The church should lead," writes Dr. Thomas F. Gailor, Bishop of Tennessee. Action by the national convention is suggested by Dr. John D. Wing, Bishop of South Florida, Dr. H. P. Almon Abbott, Bishop of Lexington, Dr. Theodore D. Bratton, Bishop of Mississippi.

Dr. Charles E. Woodcock, Bishop of Kentucky, believes that the National Convention should act. "The Convention could appoint a commission to confer with the commissions of other denominations." Dr. Frederick F. Reese, Bishop of Georgia, states that the movement has all his sympathy and believes that the Atlantic City Convention

should study the subject and that definite action should be secured.

Dr. James M. Maxon, Bishop Coadjutor of Tennessee, believes that calendar reform is of grave concern to the churches. Dr. Frederick B. Howdon, Bishop of New Mexico, urges a study by special commissions from the various churches, and suggests action by the Federal Council of Churches.

New York City. Out of 27 replies from New York clergy, there are only two votes against a stabilized Easter, and only one vote against calendar reform. On the two

proposals for revision of the calendar, 23 replies favor the 12-month plan.

"Anyone who has taken time to study the calendar knows we are about due for a reform," writes Dr. Henry Darlington. Dr. R. N. Brooks, rector of St. Thomas,

stresses the importance of the Vatican's viewpoint. Dr. W. R. Bowie of Grace Church favors definite legislative action for revision of the calendar. Dr. F. S. Fleming of Trinity suggests that government, rather than churches, should assume leadership in this movement, but he heartily approves cooperation and study by the churches.

All four of these clergymen favor the 12-month plan.

"The 12-month plan would cause the least upset and misunderstanding," writes Dr. A. V. Litchfield of St. Michael's. "and would leave an element of variety with a degree of uniformity." Dr. John Campbell, Church of the Mediator, says: "The churches should invite government action toward calendar reform." This is also the attitude of Dr. R. E. Brock, of Christ Church, Riverdale. Dr. A. P. S. Hyde suggests action by the national conventions and assemblies of the churches, and Dr. C. W. Robinson of Christ Church, Broadway, recommends creation of a special committee with representatives from all churches. Dr. N. A. Seagle of St. Stephen's is lukewarm on the whole subject of calendar reform, but regards the 12-month proposal more favorably than the 13-month plan.

California. Seventeen replies from California are unanimous in favor of calendar reform and stabilization of Easter. As between the two proposals for a revised calendar, 14 replies are for the 12-month plan, 1 for the 13-month and 2 non-committal.

"I favor emphatically the 12-month plan," writes Dr. Harlan Bailey of San Francisco, "for the 13-month proposal seems awkward and very inconvenient."

Colorado. "A united front on the subject of calendar reform among the churches would insure political action in all the nations of the western world," declares Dr. J. F. Carman of Denver. Dr. Edwin Johnson of Colorado Springs suggests action by individual parishes in their diocesan annual councils, followed by action through the triennial national convention. Dr. H. E. Grace of Denver and Dr. H. C. Benjamin of Pueblo think the churches should participate in the movement, but not take leadership. Dr. Grace writes: "I am a traveling missionary, and the movable dates of Easter cause me a great deal of grief in planning my schedule." Dr. B. D. Dagwell of Denver favors calendar reform and wants the churches to participate in its study and agitation.

Connecticut. "I favor the 12-month plan," says Dr. A. M. Lambert of Hartford. "To me the 13-month proposal has practically nothing reasonable to recommend it for adoption. I think only selfish business interests would favor it. . . . In agitating calendar reform, the church should take the initiative because religious interests are paramount in our civilization. Governments and business organizations should cooperate. Although the world depends largely on business, yet business is not the foundation of all life." Dr. W. F. Gookin of Avon, Dr. F. F. German of Middletown and Dr. D. S. Markle of Fairfield suggest that the Episcopal national convention should take some action in favor of calendar reform. Dr. C. C. Garmud of Clinton thinks the Roman Catholic church should lead.

District of Columbia. Seven Washington clergymen vote unanimously for Easter stabilization and calendar reform. Six of them favor the 12-month plan; the seventh is "undecided". Dr. A. S. Hawkesworth says: "I am emphatically for the 12-month plan. The only beneficiaries of the foolish 13-month proposal would be landlords." He calls attention to the value to clergymen of a monograph on "Calendars of Israel", written by Dr. Julian Morgenstern and published in abridged form by The World Calendar Association. Dr. Morgenstern's studies, he suggests, will be useful in clearing

up many obscure queries about the religious backgrounds of the calendar.

Illinois. Ten replies from Illinois parishes are all in favor of a fixed Easter and a general reform of the calendar. Seven votes are cast for the 12-month plan, and two for the 13. "I am very strongly in favor of calendar reform at the earliest possible date," says Dr. H. W. Prince of Lake Forest. Dr. L. F. Martin of Kankakee, comparing the two proposals for a new calendar, decides that "either one would be acceptable, but a 12-month year would meet with less opposition." Action by the Episcopal national convention is suggested by Dr. C. T. Hull of Chicago, Dr. F. H. O. Bowman of Pontiac and Dr. B. N. Burke of Dixon. "The government should take the initiative in this matter," writes Dr. E. V. Griswold of Chicago, "because it is mainly a secular and business matter." Dr. H. L. Cawthorne of Chicago is like-

minded, but adds: "The churches should study the question, and the government should be advised by both religious and business groups."

Maryland. Five replies from Maryland parishes show a complete agreement on the advisability of stabilizing the Easter date. Three votes are cast for the 12-month plan of general calendar reform; two for the 13-month proposal. "The churches should join with business organizations and governments in leading this movement for a new calendar," writes Dr. C. A. Hensel of Baltimore. Action by the general convention of the church is recommended by Dr. F. P. Willes of Croom and Dr. Robert Kell of Baltimore. Careful studies by special church committees are urged by Dr. D. F. Fenn of Baltimore.

Massachusetts. Out of 13 replies, 12 are for the 12-month plan. The other from Dr. W. N. Bixby of Arlington, opposes all calendar reform on the ground that "it would cause endless confusion." Dr. C. R. Peck of Trinity Church, Concord, makes a somewhat qualified choice: "I personally prefer the 13-month plan, but for the sake of expediency I vote decidedly for the 12-month proposal. I am very keen for this to come about. Action should be taken by the Federal Council in America and by the heads of the historic churches abroad." Dr. D. A. Park of Boston qualifies his vote with the comment that "the present calendar affords a refreshing exception to the general uniformity of everything, and its varying or changing dates add a certain interest to observances and occasions."

New Jersey. Out of 23 replies, 15 favor a revised 12-month calendar, 2 favor the 13-month plan, 2 indicate no choice, and 4 are opposed to any change from the present calendar. "I am heartily in favor of calendar reform from every point of view,—and the sooner the better," writes Dr. H. I. Johnson of Jersey City. "The 12-month World Calendar answers every requirement and is in every way preferable to the awkward 13-month plan, which has little to recommend it except its novelty. It would cause confusion and could not be adapted or adopted without difficulty. The 12-month plan would meet with general approval and less opposition from the ignorant and superstitious."

New York. Sixteen replies from upstate New York show 13 votes for the 12-month revision, 1 vote for the 13-month plan, 1 vote opposing any reform, and 1 ballot favoring reform but indicating no preference.

Ohio. Ten replies from Ohio are all in favor of Easter stabilization and a general reform of the calendar on a 12-month basis. "The 13-month plan seems too artificial and would upset too many old customs," writes Dr. Donald Wonders of Sandusky. Dr. A. W. Cooke of Springfield thinks the church can do an important educational work in promoting this reform: "Let the churches cultivate public opinion, rather than try to initiate the reform." Dr. G. C. Dunlop of Cincinnati suggests action by the Federal Council, cooperating with Catholic and Jewish groups. Dr. Paul Jones of Yellow Springs is similarly minded: "The Federal Council might well start the movement and refer it to participating church bodies." Dr. V. A. Peterson of Cleveland insists that "certainly the churches of Christendom should have a voice in a matter so seriously affecting them."

Pennsylvania. From Philadelphia, ten replies favor a 12-month revision of the calendar, 1 favors the 13-month plan, 1 opposes all calendar reform, and 3 decline to make a choice between the two proposals. Dr. F. B. Downs: "The 12-month plan is far superior, requiring less readjustment and being more in accord with sacred tradition... The churches should take a leading part in this reform, which is as much ecclesiastical as it is civil or financial." Dr. A. T. Knowles: "Essential to proper correction of the calendar is the support of the church."

From Pittsburgh, four replies favor a fixed Easter and a 12-month revised calendar. A fifth reply, from Dr. F. Kempster of St. Mark's, opposes a fixed Easter and withholds approval of any church activity on behalf of calendar reform. Dr. H. B. Edwards suggests that "the churches and business organizations should initiate the movement for calendar reform." Dr. A. W. Garden thinks that "local churches should petition the national convention to take up this matter." Dr. R. J. Meade says: "The government

should lead, but churches should cooperate." Dr. R. D. Brown writes: "The church

Outside Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, 13 replies give 11 votes for a fixed Easter and 10 votes for a 12-month revision of the calendar. Three replies are opposed to any calendar reform, although one of these approves fixation of Easter. Dr. W. M. Smaltz of Lebanon: "Why common sense has not achieved this needed reform long ago seems inexplicable." Dr. E. P. Wroth, Warren: "I prefer the 12-month revision and wish it success. Governments should lead, and not be hampered or stampeded by any church."

Virginia. Out of 8 replies, 5 votes are cast for a fixed Easter and 6 for a reformed calendar of the 12-month type. The present calendar is adequate, according to Dr. J. Y. Dowman and Dr. George Ossman of Richmond. "I have no objections to either Easter fixation or a reformed calendar," is the comment of Dr. R. S. Martin of Blacksburg. The churches should lead the whole movement for a new calendar, declare Dr. S. S. Spathey of Richmond and Dr. W. F. Carpenter of Haymarket.

#### PRESBYTERIAN

Out of 315 replies from Presbyterian clergymen, there are 289 votes in favor of general calendar reform and 21 which definitely oppose it. The remaining 5 either fail to answer this question or state that they are undecided.

Of those favoring calendar reform, 243 want the 12-month equalquarter calendar, 34 vote for the 13-month plan, and the remainder either have no preference or do not state it.

There are 269 votes for stabilization of Easter and 27 votes against it.

California. Out of 18 replies, 15 favor the 12-month plan. Of the other three, Dr. R. E. Stoddard of Oakland wants the 13-month plan, Dr. F. J. Hart of San Luis Obispo opposes any change and Dr. David McMartin of Merced considers the whole

matter "unimportant."

Colorado. Out of six replies, 4 favor the 12-month revision of the calendar and the other 2 are opposed to any change. "I object to changing the calendar because of the effect it would have on Easter observance," says Dr. Robert Karr of Denver. "I object because it would disturb the 7-day week," writes Dr. J. P. Hutchison of Colorado Springs. "I favor the 12-month plan, with governments leading, perhaps at the invitation of the churches," declares Dr. B. H. Freye of Denver. "The churches and business organizations should support this movement," suggests Dr. W. S. Crozier of Pueblo. "If Congress had the necessary intelligence it would act on this matter," writes Dr. C. K. Powell of Denver. "Governments should lead, and the churches should cooperate—church governing bodies should immediately express their sympathy with calendar reform," says Dr. P. V. Jenness of Denver.

Georgia. Five replies from this state are all in favor of Easter stabilization. As to general reform of the calendar, 3 votes are cast for the 12-month plan, 1 for the

13-month proposal, and 1 against any change.

Illinois. Out of 10 replies from Chicago, 7 votes are for a fixed Easter and general calendar reform, while 3 oppose any change. Of those favoring calendar reform, 4 want the 12-month plan and 2 have no choice. Dr. W. H. Reeves prefers the 13-month plan but believes "the 12-month proposal more practical and possible of attainment under present conditions." He adds: "I am heartily in favor of calendar reform and believe study of the problem by the churches will be most pertinent." Dr. N. B. Barr writes: "I strongly favor a revised calendar. Whatever action is taken by the churches should be through their national conventions." Dr. W. W. Iliffe: "I favor the 12-month plan by far."

Outside Chicago, 15 replies from Illinois clergymen show 14 votes for a fixed

Easter and general calendar reform, and 1 against any change. Eleven replies favor the 12-month revision and 3 prefer the 13-month plan. But 2 of the latter, Dr. A. W. Pratt of Decatur and Dr. H. N. Brockway of Winnebago, feel that wide-spread opposition to the 13-month plan makes the 12-month proposal more practical and feasible. Dr. Brockway says: "I would quickly change to the 12-month plan in order to bring about the best possible adjustment."

Indiana. Out of 15 replies from this state, 11 votes are cast for the 12-month, 3 for the 13-month, and 1 against any change. Dr. T. B. Terhune of New Albany, while voting for the 13-month plan, does not see much probability of agreement on it. Dr. W. E. Shirey of Brazil writes: "I am heartily in favor of calendar reform and believe the churches should lead in this matter. Let them speak in all their national and diocesan conventions. Let them begin to do something practical about it now. Here is a subject on which all denominations can unite without in any way causing friction by reason of theological or other differences." His suggestion that the church take the initiative is endorsed by Dr. H. W. Steen of Dayton, Dr. J. C. Corkey of Logansport, and Dr. H. M. Allburt of Huntington.

Iowa. Out of 9 replies, there are 7 votes for the 12-month revision of the calendar. Dr. L. N. Coffman of Davenport is opposed to any change; Dr. M. R. Sawyers of Centerville says: "I like the 13-month plan but feel that the 12-month proposal would be an improvement on what we have." Action by the Federal Council is suggested by Dr. W. P. Lemon of Iowa City. Action by the general assemblies of the churches is recommended by Dr. C. E. Person of Clarinda, Dr. Walter Barlow of Ames and Dr. C. A. Carriel of Dubuque.

Kansas. Nine replies from this state are all in favor of a fixed Easter and a general reform of the calendar. As between the two major plans for revision, the

vote is 7 to 2 in favor of the 12-month proposal.

Kentucky. "I prefer the present calendar," says Dr. G. F. Bell of Louisville. There are 5 other replies from Kentucky, all in favor of a stabilized Easter and general calendar reform on a 12-month basis. "At first I was inclined to the 13-month proposal," writes Dr. D. K. Walthall of Nicholasville, "but a more thorough study of the question has convinced me that the 12-month plan is best."

Michigan. Out of 11 replies from this state, 10 favor a stabilized Easter and general calendar reform, with Dr. E. A. Miller of Grand Rapids voting: "I prefer the calendar as it is and cannot see any particular advantage in a fixed Easter." All the others favor the 12-month calendar with the exception of Dr. D. H. Porter of Ypsilanti, who would be suited by either plan, and Dr. A. C. Sawtelle of Bay City

who has "no particular choice."

Minnesota. Nine replies from this state favor a fixed Easter and general calendar reform, with one dissenting vote from Dr. O. M. Jones of Duluth, who opposes any change but prefers the 12-month revision to the alternative proposal. There are 6 other votes for the 12-month plan and 3 for the 13-month. That the churches should lead the movement is the opinion of Dr. J. P. Garland of St. Paul, Dr. M. C. Robinson of Minneapolis and Dr. E. H. Ambrose of St. Paul. Governments should lead, with churches cooperating, according to Dr. R. G. Riemann of Minneapolis, Dr. T. W. Smith of Hibbing and Dr. J. C. Krebs of St. Paul.

Missouri. Thirteen replies from this state are unanimous for a fixed Easter and a 12-month revised calendar. "I was originally an exponent of the 13-month plan," writes Dr. A. B. Jackson of Jefferson City, "but have been thoroughly convinced during recent years of the overwhelming values of the 12-month proposal." Dr. A. W. Martin of Tarkio College says: "The 13-month plan would be a deformation, instead of a reformation. It would be worse than the present system." Dr. R. A. Waggoner of Sedalia states: "The 12-month revised calendar appeals strongly to me. The church by all means should lead this movement." Dr. J. E. Kerr, Farmington: "By all means the 12-month plan. Let the Federal Council open the way." Dr. Talmage Witt, St. Louis: "The church naturally should take the initiative."

Nebraska. There are 5 replies from this state favoring a fixed Easter and general

calendar reform on a 12-month basis, with one dissenting vote from Dr. W. F. Perry of Lincoln, who is opposed to any change. Dr. J. E. Cummings of Omaha writes: "I am opposed to the 13-month plan, as I feel it would be worse than the present calendar." Dr. R. V. Gilbert of Fremont says: "Calendar reform is sorely needed." Action by special committees of the church organizations on behalf of the 12-month plan is suggested by Dr. F. C. Jones of Gordon and Dr. R. S. McCown of Beatrice, while Dr. E. C. Raue of Scotts Bluff thinks the national conventions of the churches are qualified to act in the matter.

New Jersey. General reform of the calendar is favored in 16 out of 17 replies. There are 13 votes for the 12-month calendar and 3 for the 13-month proposal. Dr. C. L. Reynolds of Newark writes: "The 13-month plan has already created opposition to any reform, but this opposition can be overcome by an intelligent exposition of the 12-month proposal, which is the only sensible proposition that has been made."

New York. From New York State, there are 15 votes for the 12-month plan, 1 for the 13-month proposal, and 3 votes against change. "The 12-month plan is the simplest and most practical," writes Dr. S. H. Genung of Troy. Dr. H. V. Yergen of New York City says: "The 12-month revision is the best, being at the same time the least radical and eminently satisfactory." Dr. George Storner of Buffalo comments: "I wish the church would lead this movement instead of lagging behind." Dr. H. A. Armitage of Davenport urges: "The 12-month plan by all means—the church should lead."

North Carolina. Four votes from this state are evenly divided between the 12-month and the 13-month plans. Dr. C. E. Raynal of Statesville is a staunch advocate of the 12-month proposal: "If the calendar is reformed, I strongly favor the World Calendar. The 13-month plan is impossible and unthinkable, unless we grant that the world has gone crazy. I pray earnestly that the 12-month plan will be adopted. The other would wreck the year." Dr. J. S. Kennison of Townsville believes that the church should take the leadership in this movement. Dr. J. M. Millard of Greensboro believes governments should lead. Dr. D. H. Scanlon of Durham suggests that the church appoint a special representative national committee.

Ohio. Out of 17 replies, 14 favor a 12-month revision of the calendar, 1 vote is cast for the 13-month plan, and 2 votes are against reform. "I heartily favor a reformed calendar and a stabilized Easter," writes Dr. W. F. D. Lewis of Cleveland, adding: "The 12-month plan is preferable. I have given years of study to the subject and believe this much needed reform is quite as sacred and holy as any previous calendar revision. I think it would be eminently satisfactory to all religious denominations, being a Christian calendar, founded on historical truth. The time is ripe for it." Dr. P. E. Carson, Struthers: "I formerly favored the 13-month plan, but it seems cumbersome, and as I see the issue, the revised 12-month year is better." Dr. J. H. Lamy, Martins Ferry: "The national bodies of the churches should act." Dr. F. H. Throop, Columbus: "Calendar reform should be worth while. The 12-month plan would be far the better." Dr. W. C. Press, Youngstown: "The church should lead." Dr. I. L. White, Troy: "Churches can help through their general assemblies." Dr. F. W. Fraser, Youngstown: "The matter is one of much importance. A better calendar is very desirable. The Federal Council might well launch the enterprise."

Pennsylvania. Seven votes from Philadelphia are all cast for Easter stabilization and a 12-month revision of the calendar, although Dr. J. H. Lee says: "Neither plan especially appeals to me, but the 13-month proposal is particularly objectionable." The church should lead the movement for calendar reform, according to Dr. J. K. Lynn. Governments should lead with the churches cooperating, according to Dr. H. B. Boyd, Dr. C. L. Hussey and Dr. V. D. Beckett.

Eight replies from Pittsburgh are all in favor of a fixed Easter and a 12-month

Eight replies from Pittsburgh are all in favor of a fixed Easter and a 12-month revision of the calendar. "The churches should encourage this reform by taking up the matter in their national assemblies," says Dr. R. B. Johnson. "I would be glad indeed to see the 12-month plan adopted, and much prefer it to any other," writes

Dr. T. H. Newcomb.

Outside Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, 26 replies favor the 12-month plan, 7 prefer the 13-month proposal, and there are 3 votes against change. Dr. H. C. Hunke of Punxsutawney: "Religion has often been guilty, or at least accused, of standing in the way of progress. Here is the chance for it to show itself interested in something of practical value. I think it would be well for all of us to exert our influence to the fullest possible extent to accomplish this reform. I favor the 12-month plan primarily because I think there would be too much opposition to the other proposal and that we ought to agree upon the less radical change."

Texas. There are 13 votes for a fixed Easter and 12 votes for a general reform of the calendar, the abstention in the latter case being Dr. R. S. McKee of Clarendon, who states that he is "indifferent on the subject." "The churches have a very great interest in this reform," says Dr. T. F. Gallagher of Dallas. "I hope calendar reform will be secured at the earliest possible moment and I certainly prefer The World Calendar," says Dr. E. P. Day of Brownsville. "The Federal Council should be able to get official action from each denomination," declares Dr. T. O. Perrin of Greenville. "The churches should take the lead, inasmuch as this reform affects them so materially," writes Dr. B. H. Moore of Smithville. "The equal-quarter plan is the most simple and the least radical," states Dr. W. R. Johnson of Galveston. "I utterly oppose the 13-month plan," says Dr. William Rivins of Victoria. "The churches should study this problem," writes Dr. C. H. Lang of Kilgore.

Virginia. Out of ten replies from this state, 8 favor a fixed Easter and general calendar reform. Two votes are against any change, coming from Dr. R. A. Lapserg of Roanoke and Dr. J. S. Albertson of Dumbarton. Seven votes are for the 12-month equal-quarter calendar, with 1 vote for the 13-month plan from Dr. J. J. Murray of Lexington, who qualifies his position as follows: "I favor the 13-month,

but the 12-month plan is satisfactory if the other cannot be secured."

#### CONGREGATIONAL

Out of 173 replies from Congregational clergymen, there are 133 votes for the 12-month type of general calendar reform, and 20 votes for the 13-month proposal. Fixation of Easter is favored by 156 to 12. Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, former President of the Federal Council, is one of the outstanding advocates of the 12-month revision and urges church leadership in the whole movement. "As a churchman," he writes, "I shall do what I can to induce the church to lead, and other organizations to cooperate."

California. Nine replies from this state are unanimous in favor of a fixed Easter and general calendar reform. There are 6 votes for the 12-month plan, and 2 votes for the 13-month, while Dr. A. A. Hunter of Hollywood would approve "whichever plan the Federal Council favors after studying the problem." Dr. W. B. Thorp of Palo Alto suggests that the League of Nations should take leadership in reforming the civil calendar and the Roman Catholic church the religious calendar.

Connecticut. Out of 23 replies, there are 21 votes for a fixed Easter and 19 votes for general calendar reform of the 12-month type. There are no replies favoring the 13-month plan. Dr. Stanley Sellick of Stratford is opposed to general calendar reform while Dr. A. W. Bailey of Winsted, Dr. John M. Deyo of Danbury and Dr. A. W. Budd of Derby are "not interested."

Illinois. Fourteen replies are unanimous for a fixed Easter and general calendar reform. Eleven votes favor the 12-month plan and 2 favor the 13-month year with Dr. H. E. Brown of Evanston undecided as between the two plans. International leadership by the Universal Christian Council is advocated by Dr. P. A. Swartz of La Grange, while  $\Gamma$ r. W. I. Caughran of Chicago thinks the Federal Council should act.

Iowa. There are 10 votes for a fixed Easter, 11 votes for general reform of the calendar and 1 vote against any change, the latter one from Dr. Joseph Steele of Sioux City, who says: "I say let the calendar alone; I certainly will not favor any plan for having 13 months." Dr. E. Booth of Sheldon is against any change in the Easter date but favors general calendar reform of the 12-month equal-quarter type. There are 6 other votes for the 12-month plan and 4 for the 13-month proposal.

Massachusetts. Out of 31 replies, 29 favor a fixed Easter and 2 are opposed. On general calendar reform there are 28 favorable votes, 2 opposed and one undecided. There are 24 votes for the 12-month revised calendar, 3 votes for the 13-

month plan and 4 which indicate no choice.

Michigan. There are 9 replies from this state, all favoring a fixed Easter and general revision of the calendar. As between the two major proposals for calendar

reform, the vote is 7 to 2 in favor of the 12-month plan.

New York. Six votes from New York City are all in favor of a fixed Easter and general calendar reform on a 12-month equal-quarter basis. Dr. S. Parkes Cadman writes: "As a churchman, I shall do what I can to induce the church to lead in calendar reform, and other organizations to cooperate. I favor the 12-month equalquarter plan and believe that the subject is of great social importance." Dr. E. C. Macklin of Jamaica says: "I can't imagine any serious opposition to this movement."

Outside greater New York, there are 11 votes for the 12-month plan, 1 vote for

the 13-month proposal and a dissenting vote from Dr. F. J. Hayden of Wantagh who says: "No need for any change." Dr. A. E. Randall of Jamestown writes: "The 13-month calendar intrigued me at first, but more thoughtful consideration caused me to change my mind completely and I am heartily in favor of the 12-month plan with its equal quarters. I should like to see the church take the initiative because other institutions are not as clearly representative of the whole people. Each denomination has its national body which could take action following discussion in the local churches."

Ohio. Ten replies are unanimous in favor of Easter stabilization and a 12month revision of the calendar. Leadership by the churches is advocated by Dr. Louis Greene of Columbus and Dr. B. H. Burtt of Brecksville. Leadership by governments, with the churches cooperating, seems the best plan to Dr. David Pike of Cleveland, Dr. J. A. Richards of Oberlin and Dr. H. Haupt of Cincinnati. Definite legislative action is favored by Dr. F. Q. Blanchard of Cleveland.

Wisconsin. Out of 6 replies, there are 5 votes in favor of a stabilized Easter and general calendar reform, with a dissenting vote from Dr. H. R. Hogan of Racine, who disapproves of any change. Preference for the 12-month plan is expressed by 3 replies, with one vote for the 13-month proposal and no choice indicated by Dr. H. E. Peabody of Appleton.

#### REFORMED

Out of 104 replies there are 84 votes for a 12-month revision of the calendar and 14 votes for the 13-month plan. Stabilization of Easter is approved by 101 to 3. The sentiment for church participation in the movement for calendar reform is overwhelming.

District of Columbia. "Definite action by national church assemblies, on behalf of the 12-month plan, would have great influence," suggests Dr. H. H. Ranck of Washington, adding: "Government action will surely follow if there is a practically universal

demand for the change from churches and other groups."

Maryland. Six replies are unanimous for calendar revision of the 12-month type. Dr. H. N. Bassler, Westminster: "I have been deeply interested in this matter and hope that something can be done to make it effective. I feel that the church should take the initiative, through a special committee of representative churchmen, followed by action in the national assemblies."

Michigan. Dr. John Bovenkerk, Muskegon: "I have studied calendar reform for the last two or three years, and have weighed the pros and cons carefully and conscientiously. My conclusion is a whole-hearted committal to the plans for a new calendar. I am skeptical about the 13-month plan, in view of the mountains of tradition that must be overcome. The 12-month proposal will find a better response with the masses of our people. I am inclined to believe that the church should take the initiative. Denominational assemblies should pass resolutions, and the Federal Council should act as a clearing house." Dr. H. F. Hilgeman of Bay City proposes a committee on behalf of the 12-month plan, composed of representatives of churches, governments and business organizations.

New Jersey. Six votes for the 12-month plan, two for the 13-month proposal, and one opposing any change. Dr. W. L. Sahler, Freehold: "The church should take up this matter, cooperating with governments." Dr. C. H. Gramm, New Brunswick: "I have studied this matter for several years, and approve the 12-month World Calendar by all means. The church should cooperate, with the highest body in each denomination

acting first, to get quicker results."

New York. Eleven replies are unanimous for Easter stabilization and general reform of the calendar, with ten votes for the 12-month plan, and one for the 13-month proposal. "The church should lead, with other groups cooperating," writes Dr. D. V. Verwey of New York City. "Calendar reform should be enacted in full cooperation with religious bodies, and the participation of the churches should be according to the recognized rules of the respective denominations," says Dr. H. E. Schnatz of Buffalo.

Ohio. There are 12 votes for a 12-month revision of the calendar, one vote for the 13-month plan, and two votes against any change. Dr. F. W. Hoffman, Louisville: "Calendar reform should be very seriously studied by the churches of all faiths. As a churchman I hold the position that the churches should lead in this movement, for as a Christian minister I believe we should hold out against the secularization of the time elements. As to procedure, it seems to me there could be no better method for church action than that already set up in the Universal Christian Council, acting in conjunction with the League of Nations." Dr. A. K. Beisheim, Bluffton: "I always was skeptical about the 13-month plan—it is too technical and difficult. The 12-month plan is simple and efficient. As a churchman, I would like to see the church lead in the accomplishment of this reform. I have been keenly interested in the progress of the World Calendar."

Pennsylvania. The 39 replies are unanimous for a stabilized Easter. As to general calendar reform, there are 26 votes for the 12-month plan, 10 for the 13-month proposal, one against change, and 2 favoring calendar reform without stating a preference between the two plans. Dr. P. E. Deitz, Philadelphia: "I think the majority of churchmen would be agreed that a general reform of the calendar is desirable. The approval of the church to the proposed plan should be obtained before business organizations and governments proceed to put it into effect. National church bodies might well pass resolutions on the subject." Dr. P. D. Yoder, Codorus: "I think the churches ought to study this subject and cooperate in its progress. Both proposals for a new calendar have advantages, but I favor the 12-month plan." Dr. R. J. Pilgrim, Lancaster: "I have studied the 12-month plan for several years and favor it. It would meet the need with less dislocation and less adjustment."

#### METHODIST

Among 53 replies from Methodist clergy, 47 favor a general reform of the calendar and a fixed Easter, while 4 are opposed to any change. There are 33 votes for the 12-month revision and 13 for the 13-month plan.

New England States. Five votes for the 12-month plan, one for the 13-month proposal and one "uncertain." Dr. J. M. Arten, Bangor, Me.: "The Federal Council is best qualified to act in this matter." Dr. Chester F. Butterfield, Sanford, Me.: "By all means

the 12-month plan, which embodies every idea that is valuable." Dr. H. S. Thomas, Presque Isle, Me.: "The churches should agitate and cause this to be made a political issue." Dr. E. W. Robinson, Woodfords, Me.: "Business organizations should take the initiative." Dr. J. G. Rogers, Melrose, Mass.: "There should be a coordinated approach to this reform."

Eastern States. Nine votes for the 12-month plan, 6 for the 13-month proposal and 4 against change. Dr. John E. Holt, Ridgewood, Md.: "If Congress would legislate the World Calendar into being, with the President's approval, all churches and governments would follow suit." Dr. R. H. Stone, Baltimore: "The 12-month plan is vastly superior to the 13-month proposal. Dr. E. L. Watson, Baltimore: "The 12-month plan would be less disturbing. It would aid all church programs." Dr. T. S. Brock, Atlantic City, N. J.: "Churches and governments should get together on this matter. The Federal Council is well qualified to act." Dr. K. K. Quimby, Ridgewood, N. J.: "The churches should lead."

Southern States. Five votes for the 12-month revised calendar and one vote against change. Dr. W. R. Hendrix, Knoxville, Tenn.: "The churches should initiate the plan."

Central and Western States. Fourteen votes for the 12-month, 6 for the 13-month plan, 1 vote against change.

#### BAPTIST

There are 46 replies from clergymen identifying themselves as belonging to the Baptist communion, 35 of whom favor the 12-month plan while 6 prefer the 13-month revision. Four replies oppose reform, and 1 favors reform but makes no choice of a plan. Forty replies favor a fixed Easter, 4 oppose this change, and 2 are "indifferent."

New England States. Eight votes for the 12-month plan, three for the 13-month proposal, one undecided, one neither, one no answer. Dr. J. M. Maxwell, Randolph, Vt.: "The 12-month plan is best. The other presents about as many new difficulties as it removes old ones." Dr. J. S. Franklin, West Newton, Mass.: "Do not like the thirteenth month. Think that the 12-month calendar would be accepted more readily." Dr. W. H. Jones, Portland, Me.: "The church and business are chiefly concerned in this reform."

Eastern States. Eleven votes for the 12-month plan with one vote for the 13-month revision. Dr. A. Z. Myers, Neshaminy, Pa.: "The 12-month by all means. The 13-month is not possible. It would confuse the past too much." Dr. T. V. Parker, Binghamton, N. Y.: "The 12-month plan. What would your superstitious people do if Friday came always on the thirteenth?" Dr. C. F. Banning, Richmond Hill, N. Y., wants definite legislative action within the next five years. Dr. H. K. Bower, Danville, Pa.: "It is a good thing and ought to come." Dr. M. G. Dickinson, Brookville, Pa.: "Business organizations should lead. They should then influence governments." Dr. H. J. White, Philadelphia, agrees and adds: "Churches should also cooperate." Dr. A. J. Davies, Conshohocken, Pa.: "My judgment is that it would be best for business organizations to take the initiative, but the churches should study the problem." Dr. M. R. Sheldon, Ford City, Pa., looks to definite legislative action by the various nations within the next five years.

Southern States. Dr. A. F. Jackson, Winfield, W. Va.: "I think the 12-month equal-quarter plan the least objectionable. Let the Federal Council consult the various denominational bodies and then put the matter before the nations." Dr. E. J. Woofter, Salem, W. Va., believes national church conventions should act.

Central and Western States. Thirteen votes for the 12-month, 2 for the 13-month proposal, one for either, 2 for neither. "The opposition will be largely on so-called religious grounds, therefore it is more strategic for the church to take the leadership, but don't let the move appear sectarian," states Dr. H. C. Burr, Detroit. Dr. J. S. Braker, Sandusky, Ohio, believes governments should take the lead with churches

cooperating, while Dr. T. F. Adams of Toledo says: "All have a definite part in this movement." Dr. W. L. Harms, Oshkosh, Wis., suggests that haviously common agency should act. "The churches and other groups should cooperate through common agency or commission," write Dr. E. L. Killam, Lake Geneva, Wis.

#### LUTHERAN

In the Lutheran church, proposals for official consideration of general calendar reform have already come up, and a resolution endorsing the 12-month plan is now under consideration in the important New York Synod, with the expectation of its being urged for acceptance also at the national convention of the church. The mover of the New York resolution, Dr. W. G. Boomhower, President of the New Jersey Conference, writes: "Can't we get this subject in the church papers of the land? I am to be a delegate to the National Convention and will support any resolution the Committee sees fit to introduce."

Only two votes are cast against calendar reform in replies received from the Lutheran clergy. Thirty-four replies endorse the 12-month equal-quarter plan of revision, while 2 are undecided. Thirty-four votes were cast in favor of Easter stabilization with 4 votes against it.

Eastern States. Dr. G. H. Schnur, Statistical Secretary of the Pittsburgh Synod. who has written a summary of calendar reform for the United Lutheran Year Book and is an advocate of the 12-month plan, states: "National church conventions should act by all means; no man or committee of men can properly represent a great church body in such vital matters."

Philadelphia gives its total of 3 votes for the 12-month plan and for Easter stabilization. Dr. E. P. Pfatteicher says: "The church should lead, because it has the most at stake." Dr. E. O. Armbruster hopes for definite legislative action within five years. Dr. S. L. Stough believes that governments should lead, in cooperation with churches and business groups.

Three members of the clergy in Pittsburgh, answering the questionnaire, vote for the 12-month plan and for stabilization of Easter. "The Federal Council is the church body best qualified to act," writes Dr. A. Turkle. Dr. H. R. Mullen believes that general calendar reform must necessarily interest the churches because of its great social importance. Dr. R. W. Woods states that, in cooperation with the church, the United States government should lead this movement and should cooperate with

all the governments of the world.

Southern States. Six votes for the 12-month calendar and one vote for either plan. "I have studied both plans and am heartily in favor of the 12-month: I object to the 13-month idea," writes Dr. C. G. Wolf, Baltimore, and Dr. F. O. Evers of the same city echoes his opinion. Dr. R. L. Patterson, Charlotte, N. C.: "The respective interdenominational conventions should act." Dr. C. G. Aurand, Wheeling, W. Va., favors church participation on behalf of the 12-month plan. Dr. I. R. Ladd, Louisville, Ky., favors definite legislative action by the respective nations on calendar reform. "A national assembly, with delegates from as many church bodies as possible, would seem to be an effective way of acting on calendar reform," states Dr. H. W. Snyder, Washington, D. C.

Central and Western States. Of 12 questionnaires returned, 9 favor the 12-month plan, one neither plan, one undecided, and one no answer. "With the World Calendar I can find no fault: I believe the plan is as nearly ideal as can be conceived," writes

Dr. E. C. Nielsen, Valley Falls, Kan.

#### UNIVERSALISTS

The 12-month plan is favored by a vote of 37 to 4, with 4 voters undecided and 2 opposed to both calendar reform and Easter stabilization. The vote for Easter stabilization is 41 to 2.

New England States. Connecticut: Dr. H. A. Hersey, Danbury, while undecided as between the two plans for calendar reform, says: "Either is better than the present form." Maine: Four votes for 12-month revision, with two undecided. Dr. W. J. Metz, Dexter, says: "Think church, business and governments should work together. Church may well lead in education on this subject." Dr. Thayer Fisher, Biddeford, believes that national church assemblies should cooperate with the government in legislating for the 12-month equal-quarter plan. Massachusetts: There are 16 votes for the 12-month, two votes for the 13-month and one for neither. "I do not think the 13-month plan would have any chance of being generally adopted," writes Dr. E. L. Houghton, Plymouth. "The Federal Council should lead," says Dr. Edson Reifonider, Provincetown. Dr. C. P. Hall, West Somerville, echoes his opinion. Dr. O. W. Eames, Springfield, approves a fixed Easter as an integral part of a 12-month revision.

Eastern States. Four votes for the 12-month plan, one for 13, and one opposed to both calendar reform and Easter stabilization. Dr. L. H. Robinson, Albion, N. Y., believes churches should cooperate with the government. Dr. H. E. Benton, Philadelphia, approves the action of the Universal Christian Council in declaring that calendar reform is of great social importance. Dr. G. H. Ulrich of Cortland, N. Y., urges the fixation of Easter as an important part of calendar reform.

Southern States. Two votes for the 12-month plan. Dr. N. M. Ohdale, editor of the Universalist Herald, Canon, Ga., in endorsing the 12-month plan hopes for definite legislative action within the next five years, while Dr. R. W. Billings, Ruskin, Fla., believes church, business and government should cooperate in calendar revision.

Central and Western States. Seven votes for the 12-month plan, one for 13 and one for neither. "I have been in favor of the 13-month calendar but taking all things into consideration, perhaps the 12-month is better," writes Dr. E. H. Barrett, Muskegon Heights, Mich. Dr. B. C. Ruggles, Oakland, Cal., says: "The 12-month plan more nearly approximates established order." Dr. E. M. Jones, Webster City, Iowa, believes "the church may well encourage the government to take action." Dr. O. G. Colegrove, State Superintendent of Churches, Mitchellville, Iowa, in approving the 12-month plan, believes special committees are best qualified to act for the churches.

#### DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

In returning their questionnaires, ministers of the Disciples of Christ cast 34 votes for general calendar reform, 28 favoring the 12-month revision, while 6 want the 13-month plan. Two replies oppose any change in the calendar. Easter stabilization is endorsed by a vote of 33 to 2.

Eastern States. The 4 replies received from this section are unanimous in endorsement of the 12-month equal-quarter plan of revision. "Considering the need of balance for business years and the need to synchronize the ecclesiastical years of many churches, the 12-month plan seems desirable. It is a good and possible project for cooperative effort."—Dr. J. R. Newton, Everett, Mass.

Southern States. In the south, 6 votes favor the 12-month plan, one prefers the 13-month and one desires no change. Dr. B. L. Hoffman, State Secretary for the Disciples of Christ in Alabama, endorses the 12-month plan of revision and believes a specially constituted national group should act for the churches.

Central and Western States. The vote for calendar reform is 18 for the 12-month revision, 5 for the 13-month and one against any change. "By all means the 12-month plan. The other is in no sense feasible and ought not to be even considered."—Dr. P. G. Dennis, Marshalltown, Iowa. Dr. Max C. Deweese, St. Paul, writes: "The 12-month equal-quarter plan seems best to me, especially from the religious viewpoint." "As I see the plans now, the 12-month or World Calendar seems best."—Dr. R. C. Harding, Kansas City. Dr. J. A. Frye, Saginaw, Mich., favors calendar reform but is "conscious

of the opposition arising out of age-old customs."

Dr. W. A. Merrill, Executive Secretary of the Oklahoma Christian Missionary Society, believes "the churches should agitate and business organizations should be enlisted, but governments must take action." Dr. A. N. Lindsey, Clinton, Mo., favors church cooperation on behalf of the 12-month plan. "National church conventions should act and this action should be followed by local churches," writes Dr. F. A. Lindenmeyer, Inavale, Neb. Dr. G. W. Knepper, Akron, Ohio, believes Easter stabilization is an important part of calendar reform, and favors church interest in the whole movement. Dr. C. C. Jones, Glendora, Cal., looks for world-wide action on calendar reform within the next five years.

#### EVANGELICAL

This communion casts 21 votes for Easter stabilization and a general reform of the calendar, with 4 votes showing "no interest" in either subject. The replies favoring calendar reform are 21 for the 12-month plan, one "neither plan" and one "undecided."

Dr. Armin Haeussler, Pointe Park, Mich.: "I am absolutely convinced that if this generation does not institute this much-needed reform, the next one will. I am also convinced that no 13-month calendar will be accepted because of the formidable opposition of the Western and Eastern Catholic churches and the Evangelical Protestant churches." Dr. F. H. Klemme, Portsmouth, Ohio: "The World Calendar Association should take the initiative, in consultation with representatives of the Federal Council, Roman Catholic Ecumenical Council, Pan Orthodox Congress, Church of England, Council of the League of Nations and similar bodies." "I believe the 12-month calendar divided in equal quarters of the same number of days is the best solution of the calendar problem," states Dr. F. G. Fischer, Baltimore. "A national church convention should take the initiative in which each denomination is represented," states Dr. E. G. Frye, Cleveland. Dr. G. L. Bergeman, Fort Dodge, Iowa, approves the attitude of the Universal Christian Council in working for calendar reform. Dr. F. H. Graeper, Van Wert, Ohio, looks to definite legislative action within the next five years. Dr. P. G. Gabler, Baltimore, Md., favors church cooperation on behalf of the 12-month plan.

#### MORAVIAN

The clergy of the Moravian church cast 10 votes for the 12-month plan of revision, 1 vote for the 13-month plan, and 2 against any calendar reform. Ten replies from this denomination favor a fixed Easter while 2 desire no change and one shows little interest.

Dr. J. R. Hoesman, West Salem, Ill.: "Perhaps the World Conference on Unity and Order if it convenes again should be approached on the matter. Its delegates informed prior to convention time, or at least as soon as they are known. They being the church dignitaries for the most part might be asked to come to the Conference prepared to speak for their denominations after having been authorized to do so by their respective conventions. I believe that at the last Conference on Unity and Order, only two major denominations were not represented."

#### **CHRISTIAN**

Ministers of the Christian denomination, in their replies, all favor general calendar reform and show a preference of 9 to 2 for the 12-month equal-quarter plan. They are unanimous in approving a fixed Easter.

"I favor the 12-month equal-quarter plan, and certainly cannot approve the 13-month plan," says Dr. E. F. Mellotte, Hopkinton, N. C. Dr. G. C. Enders, Defiance, Ohio, believes that an association organized for the purpose of promoting calendar reform should have the help of the churches. "I prefer the 12-month equal-quarter plan of revision and favor church participation," writes Dr. R. L. Raybouser, Gaylord, Kan. "The Federal Council should act, with supplementary action by national assemblies of various ecclesiastical bodies," declares Dr. E. F. Daugherty, Muncie, Ind.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Among the smaller denominations, approval of Easter stabilization and a general reform of the calendar are voiced by representatives of the Anglicans, Unitarians and Friends.

There are also replies from 70 clergymen who fail to identify their denominational connections. They favor stabilization of Easter by 58 to 9. On a general reform of the calendar they cast 47 votes for the 12-month plan, 8 for the 13-month plan, 6 undecided, and 9 opposing any change.

ANGLICAN. The church should lead in promoting a 12-month revised calendar, American denominations cooperating with the Anglican, Roman and Greek churches, states Dr. A. O. Tarrant, Philadelphia. Dr. Edward House, Washington, endorses the 12-month plan and writes: "As a British subject, I am quite in accord with my mother church, and the Parliament of the British Empire."

UNITARIAN. Dr. Tracy Pullman of Cleveland approves stabilization of Easter as a part of general calendar reform and writes: "Special committees should report

to national assemblies. Local churches should study the subject."

FRIENDS. There are 3 votes for the 12-month plan and one for the 13-month proposal. "Religious objections seem to have been the chief obstacle to progress, therefore the church should support calendar reform and take the initiative for its revision," writes Dr. A. C. Goddard, New Bedford, Mass.

#### MASONIC INTEREST IN THE CALENDAR

By FRANK C. DEGRAFF, in The Masonic News

FROM earliest times Masons have been interested in astronomy. Undoubtedly this was more true when Masonry was purely operative. Astronomy has much to do with the seasons, and closely allied are the months and seasons of the year. Calendar reform therefore offers Masons a splendid opportunity to interest themselves in something that should appeal to them.

About four years ago a movement became active to change the calendar from 12 months to a year of 13 months. At first thought, it seemed a good idea. The great

drawback is that 13 is not divisible.

The revised 12-month year, as proposed by the World Calendar Association, conforms to the seasons, recognizing natural laws. Of course a change in the calendar is a world problem. The World Calendar Association has gathered so much interesting material on the subject that it has found it necessary to publish a magazine to properly disseminate this information. The World Calendar regulates the 12-month year; it is balanced in structure and perpetual in form.

## GERMAN OPINION

Extracts from recent letters received by the Gesellschaft fur Zeitgemasse Kalenderreform, Berlin; contributed by Dr. Oskar Aust, General Secretary.

We have examined this important question with great care, and find the proposals for a 12-month equal-quarter calendar excellent in every respect. Such a calendar would be advantageous to business and social life. We regard the scientific and rational improvement of time measures a desirable reform and we wish to cooperate in its attainment and enactment.—Dr. Baessler, Director German Archives Office, Dresden.

We agree in general with the proposals for a 12-month equal-quarter calendar, and should be glad to be known as supporters of this movement.—The Director, Epa Chain Stores, Berlin.

Our committee has not reached any decision on this question—in fact has not actually taken it up for definite action. But we are keeping a file of all available material, and shall follow the progress of the calendar reform movement with keen interest.—Messrs. Goebal and Frank, directors of the official German Committee on Standardization of Measurements.

It was only by accident that I learned a few days ago of the existence of a movement for calendar reform in Germany. This is a subject in which I have been interested for a long time, and I want all the available material regarding its progress.—Rudolph Schutte, Bremen.

I may say that we shall want to be kept fully informed of the progress of the calendar reform movement in Germany and elsewhere.—Dr. Hardt, director of the German Retailers Association, Berlin.

A revised calendar would fill a great economic need. We hope for rapid progress toward the realization of this reform. Your proposals have been carefully examined by this committee, and I may say that not only have we no criticism to make of the 12-month equal-quarter plan, but also we are in full agreement with your conclusions.—Dr. Kothe, director of the Committee for Investigation of Hours of Labor, German Engineering Association, Berlin.

I have been interested for years in calendar reform. The 12-month plan is best; no 13-month plan can possibly succeed.—Dr. Prange, Board of Administration, Schwerin, Prussia.

Your proposals have my full approval, and I shall not fail to urge them on my friends and acquaintances. I want all our professors to have your booklet in support of the 12-month equal-quarter proposal.—Dr. Hammitsch, Director Saxon Technical School, Dresden.

The plans for a 12-month equal-quarter perpetual calendar meet with my full approval. I am ready to promote these plans, and should like to be enrolled as a collaborator. I shall be glad to receive any available quantity of literature for distribution.—Dr. Bartels, director of propaganda, National Socialist Party, Hanover.

Your general proposals for calendar reform meet with my heartiest approval.—Mayor of Vegesack, Bremen.

We agree that calendar reform is needed, and we favor the 12-month plan. —Dr. Deml, State Librarian, Neuburg, Donau.

Your proposals for a revision of the calendar meet with our full agreement.—Prof. Dr. Dausch, Librarian, Dillengen, Bavaria.

This newspaper has for several years been advocating calendar reform along the lines which you propose.—Doctor Deckmann, publisher Nachrichten, Flenburg, Schleswig.

There is no doubt at all that the 12-month equal-quarter proposal is better than any other. The advantages of a fixed Easter are also obvious, and everything possible should be done to win the active interest of the churches in this movement. As for the actual enactment of calendar reform, I am somewhat doubtful as to whether the League of Nations is the most effective organization.— Dr. Herrmann, State Librarian, Darmstadt, Hessen.

## EXCERPTS AND REVIEWS

### Canada's New Organization

By ERLAND ECHLIN

Secretary, Rational Calendar Association of Canada, Toronto.

(From a pamphlet published in July, 1934)

CANADA'S position in regard to calendar reform is a peculiar one, in that the Canadian delegate at the League of Nations in 1931 gave official endorsement to a proposal for world-wide adoption of a 13-month calendar. Canada was one of only two nations to take this stand, the other being a small Balkan state.

The other proposal for a new calendar, widely supported in England, the United States and most European countries, provides for retention of the time-honored 12-month division of the year. It remedies the defects and inefficiencies of the present calendar on a rational and conservative

basis.

To most Canadians it would seem inevitable that the Canadian people will want the government to change its 1931 attitude at the next international convention on the subject. The 13-month calendar, discarding the quarterly division of the year, is unthinkable for a nation like Canada, which is largely agricultural, for the four seasons of the year are at the very foundation of the farmer's life.

The subject of calendar reform, though it does not lend itself to sensational treatment, is rapidly gaining increased attention among thinking people. Committees and associations have been formed in 24 countries for the purpose of studying the proposed changes. The Rational Calendar Association of Canada aims to gather together a sound body of informed public opinion which can advise the Canadian government and speak authoritatively in any international gathering on calendar reform.

Aims of the Association are: (1) To secure withdrawal of Canada's official endorsement at Geneva in 1931 of a 13-month calendar; (2) To advocate worldwide adoption of a rational, perpetual, 12-month equal-quarter calendar; (3) To inform public opinion on the defects and inefficiencies of the calendar now in use;

(4) To promote the adoption of a stabilized Easter along the lines of the British Parliamentary Act of 1928.

The Canadian Association is affiliated with 12 organizations of similar aims in other countries. They include: Rational Calendar Association of Great Britain, London; Bureau d'Etudes pour la Reforme du Calendrier, Paris; World Calendar Association, New York; Association for Calendar Reform, Berlin; Irish Committee for Calendar Reform, Dublin; Belgian National Committee on Calendar Reform, Brussels; Swiss National Committee for Calendar Reform, Zurich; Italian National Committee, Rome; German National Committee, Berlin; Greek National Committee, Athens; University Association for Study of Calendar Reform, Iowa City, Iowa; World's League for Calendar Reform, Kiel, Germany.

To foster a sane helpful moderate reform and to oppose the disrupting arithmetical materialism of the 13-month project, the Rational Calendar Association of Canada joins with the national groups of the motherland, Europe and America in advancing the 12-month equal-quarter plan, generally referred to as The World

Calendar.

## Swiss Official Statement

By PROF. E. MARCHAND and E. HOFMEISTER

President and Vice-President of Swiss Committee for Calendar Reform

(From a brochure published at Zurich, April 1934)

FOR a good many years the need of calendar reform has been strongly urged by Chambers of Commerce and at various international congresses the deficiencies of the present calendar being generally recognized. The fixing of Easter is also called for, its shifting date causing grave disadvantages in many circles.

In 1914 the Swiss Federal Council was asked to convoke an international congress on the subject, but the outbreak of the world war prevented it. In 1923 the League of Nations took the matter up. In 1931 the Swiss Federal Home Office convoked a conference at Berne to discuss

the Swiss attitude toward the League's proposals, and the Swiss National Committee for Calendar Reform was created.

The great majority of the replies received by this committee rejected the 13-month plan. Such a change would cause a real confusion in daily life and business. Existing statistical material would become almost useless.

The proposal for a 12-month equalquarter calendar, however, was adopted by the Swiss Committee. With this new calendar, each year will start on a Sunday. It should be noted that according to our present calendar no year will start on a Sunday before 1939, and afterwards not before 1950. Therefore adoption of the new calendar will be most convenient for January 1, 1939.

## Danzig Studies the Subject

By Dr. E. MEYER

(From the Business Record of the Danzig Government)

THE Senate of the Free City of Danzig has requested the World Calendar Association to graciously admit Oberregierungsrat Erich Briesewitz of the Senate of the Free City of Danzig as a member of the Association for the purpose of the study of an effective improvement of the calendar.

### Another Catholic Viewpoint

(From an editorial in America, Catholic weekly review, published in New York)

ON THE calendar question, the Rev. Dr. Edward A. Schwegler of Buffalo has written extensively, and he believes in the merits of The World Calendar. Indeed the 13-month idea seems steadily to have lost popularity as the disadvantage of an indivisible number of months becomes more apparent.

With The World Calendar we should have to accustom ourselves to February 30 and April 31, but otherwise would find little to startle us. The dates for a good part of the year would remain unchanged.

Apart from its manifest business and scientific advantages, the clergy and the laity who follow the Mass would greet it with joy, for it would greatly simplify the

church calendar and its complicated references.

The Holy See, so far, has not committed itself, although it has given to understand that the consent of the church to the fixing of the date of Easter would be a matter for an ecumenical council to determine. Dr. Schwegler's pamphlet, "Catholics and Calendar Reform," may be obtained gratis from The World Calendar Association, New York City.

### British Start Campaign

(London dispatch to Milwaukee Sentinel)

BRITISH business men are demanding the creation of a new calendar. They say the present system is too costly and they want substituted a method which will enable them to prepare their statistics with greater ease and accuracy.

Chambers of Commerce throughout the country have passed resolutions to this effect, and they are now associating themselves with the Federation of British Industries and the Trades Union Congress.

The scheme most favored is one which would divide the year into equal time periods of four quarters.

### Statisticians Vote for Reform

(From an editorial in the Peoria Journal)

LATEST agitation in the matter of calendar reform comes from the United Press, which recently conducted a survey among members of the American Statistical Association. The survey shows a sentiment of 9 to 1 for reform of the calendar.

Of the 491 answers, a majority favors a revised 12-month calendar, as opposed to the 13-month plan.

The plan sounds practical and workable. It conforms to the seasons and would not involve the radical changes in business equipment and methods that a 13-month year would. In fact it would simplify bookkeeping, estimates and other mechanics of business.

To be successful, however, The World Calendar would have to be truly a world calendar. No one nation could experiment with it. Perhaps American business men can persuade action on an international scale.

# CURRENT PRESS COMMENT

## Agitation Is Needed

New York Evening Post

With an international circulation of 20,000, the quarterly Journal of Calendar Reform makes a strong argument for its revised 12-month year. Briefly, this new calendar would be balanced in structure and perpetual in form. Sounds pretty good.

This is very much opposed to another kind of calendar reform which goes for 13 months to a year. One of the arguments against a year with 13 months is that no one would want to live in it because of the

unlucky number.

For at least 100 years our familiar but confusing Gregorian system has been under fire. The League of Nations itself has been thinking about calendar reform since 1923. Miss Elisabeth Achelis, president of the World Calendar Association, tells us that the next really important step forward will take place in 1935, when a League of Nations Committee will go into the question once more.

## Simplify, Not Complicate

Indianapolis News

A few years ago advocates of calendar reform were urging 13 months to the year, but Europe regarded such a change as a complication rather than a simplification. The reform now most generally favored retains the 12-month year, but with adjustments of days so that the months are more nearly equal in length, and a perpetual calendar, where every year would begin on Sunday.

#### Comparative Statistics

London Evening Standard

A partner in one of the large financial houses writes us on a question in which psychological factors dominate the purely practical ones. He says:

"In your financial column of March 21 you mention that as March had 31 days with only 4 Sundays and no public holidays, the figures for South African gold

production during the month should bear an encouraging outlook. Surely there is a strong case in these days when comparative statistics are of paramount importance in industry and finance, for taking steps to insure that they shall always give an accurate impression.

"The best method of making such comparative statistics of real value is to be found in a simple reform of the calendar, such as is advocated by the Federation of British Industries and many leading Chambers of Commerce. The reform involves division of the year into four equal

quarters.

"The plan has the merit of simplicity and of causing the minimum of change from our existing calendar."

### Study By the Churches

Federal Council Bulletin

As a contribution to the study of calendar reform, the Universal Christian Council has completed an inquiry into the attitude of the churches toward the stabilization of the date of Easter. A summary of the results of the study, carried on by Dr. Hans Schonfeld, the highly competent research director of the Council, has been published by the JOURNAL OF CALENDAR REFORM, with an introductory note by Dr. S. Parkes Cadman.

Officials of virtually all Protestant bodies have expressed their willingness to have a stabilized Easter. There is a considerable body of opinion that the fixing of the Easter date ought to be carried out in connection with a general plan for calendar revision in more basic respects.

## **Necessary Preparations**

Indianapolis Hardware Retailer

Probable effective date of the proposed new simplified calendar has been postponed to January 1, 1939, when the year will start on a Sunday. So the commercial hindrances and confusions growing out of the old calendar will have to be endured by the generality of people for seven years longer.

## JOURNAL OF CALENDAR REFORM

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Published by

The World Calendar Association, 485 Madison Avenue, New York City

ELISABETH ACHELIS, President

Vol. IV

OCTOBER, 1934

No. 3

PROMINENCE is given in this issue of the Journal to a detailed report of the results of a study of church opinion on the subject of calendar reform. The report was submitted on August 29 to the world congress of churches (Universal Christian Council), meeting in Fano, Denmark, and led to definite action by this influential church body.

As reported by the London Morning Post, the action of the delegates was as follows: "A resolution pledging the churches to cooperate in calendar reform and the stabilization of Easter was passed unanimously. The congress, under the joint leadership of Dr. Cadman, representing the American churches, and the Bishop of Chichester, representing England, received a report giving the opinions of 1200 leading American clergymen, and showing that American clergy favor calendar reform by 9 to 1 and stabilization of Easter by 10 to 1. The German delegation joined in approval of calendar revision. The attitude of the Vatican is still undefined, as the Catholic church was not represented at the congress. Information received, however, is considered to indicate that the Pope is sympathetic."

A dispatch to the New York Herald said in part: "A 36-page memorial containing opinions of leading American clergymen was presented by the American delegation. The memorial demanded immediate action looking toward stabilization of Easter and calendar reform. The Anglican church promptly supported the American proposals after a speech by the Bishop of Chichester, and unanimous agreement was obtained for a resolution pledging cooperation of the churches in the movement for calendar reform."

Similarly, the correspondent of the Chicago Tribune reported: "The American questionnaire showed an overwhelming desire on the part of all the churches for stabilization of Easter and general reform of the calendar. The American position was strongly supported by the Anglican church and also by the principal continental churches. A resolution was passed urging the different governments and the League of Nations to proceed with the necessary legislation."

## FROM THE MAILBAG

Permit me to say I am heartily in favor of the calendar change which you advocate and of the World Calendar which you endorse.—John F. Bethune, European Repr., U. S. Tariff Comm., Brussels, Belgium.

I favor reform and consider The World Calendar the best.—Paul W. Boehm, Lawyer, Hettinger, N. D.

I like your proposed calendar because it adheres so closely to the old. 180 out of the 365 days have the same consecutive number as in the old calendar, and the seasonal division remains the same.—J. E. Lockwood, Meteorologist, Charleston.

Personally I have favored the new calendar in editorials and conversation for many years, and its adoption, in my opinion, would be of particular value to the industry of cleaning and dyeing.—
J. W. Musselman, Editor, Oakland, Cal.

The World Calendar, 12-months, equal quarters, interests me very much. I hope to be able to promote the same interest in others.—Dr. C. C. Grove, Prof., New York.

I received with pleasure the pamphlet you were kind enough to send me with regard to calendar reform. I will be glad to go over it, and am sure that it will be of great interest to me.—W. M. Duke, Archbishop of Vancouver, Canada.

The proposed calendar is practical, the first one proposed that has real sense.— S. W. Odell, Lawyer, Santa Monica, Cal.

The United States Government should immediately provide by proper legislation and propaganda for the adoption of the so-called World Calendar at the next available year (1939) and should urge such an adoption by other countries.—G. Van Fleet, Asst. Actuary, American Natl. Ins. Co., Galveston, Tex.

I am a firm believer in the proposed World Calendar.—Douglas B. Whiting, Concord, N. H.

Greatly prefer The World Calendar to the 13-month plan.—H. C. Potterf, Lawyer, Ardmore, Okla.

I am heartily in favor of your program.

—Charles Almy, Jr., Pres. Multibestos
Company, Cambridge, Mass.

I do not favor the 13-month plan of revision, but am interested in the plan explained in the pamphlet just received from you.—Reno R. Reeve, Lawyer, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

I prefer the 12-month equal-quarter plan for the present because it serves to correct most of the present difficulties in the calendar and would be more easily adopted.—E. R. Mowrer, Prof. Northwestern University, Evanston.

It is evident without much thought that a change to a 13-month year would work great hardships as well as be a very expensive matter for all fraternal organizations, and we hope that everyone concerned will oppose the 13-month calendar.—L. J. Kaspar, Secy. Western Bohemian Fraternal Association, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Simplicity and symmetry of the proposed World Calendar renders it an efficient means of overcoming present calendar confusion. I am strongly in favor of its universal adoption.—Max Bay, Michigan Bell Telephone Co., Detroit.

For commercial purposes I should prefer the 12-month equal-quarter plan as there are many transactions that are subject to quarterly or semi-annual requirements and it would be rather odd to have to divide the months.—H. B. Little, Pres. Institution for Savings, Newburyport, Mass.

Certainly there should be some change in the calendar and the proposed change appears practical. I am for it.—E. B. Atchley, Ohio Edison, Akron, Ohio.

The reform must introduce the least possible changes; to be conservative rather than radical.—V. P. Timoshenko, Lecturer, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Twelve months for a year, instead of 13 as proposed, should be acceptable to all.—M. W. Glover, General Auditor West Penn Power Company, Pittsburgh.

Was keenly interested in articles by Professors Willis and Madden. Have long felt a uniform date measurement for the world an important step that must eventually be taken.—A. M. Nielsen, Prof. Geography, N. Y. Univ., New York.

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